Walt Disney
MAGAZINES
PKNA #49/50
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PAPERINIK NEW ADVENTURES

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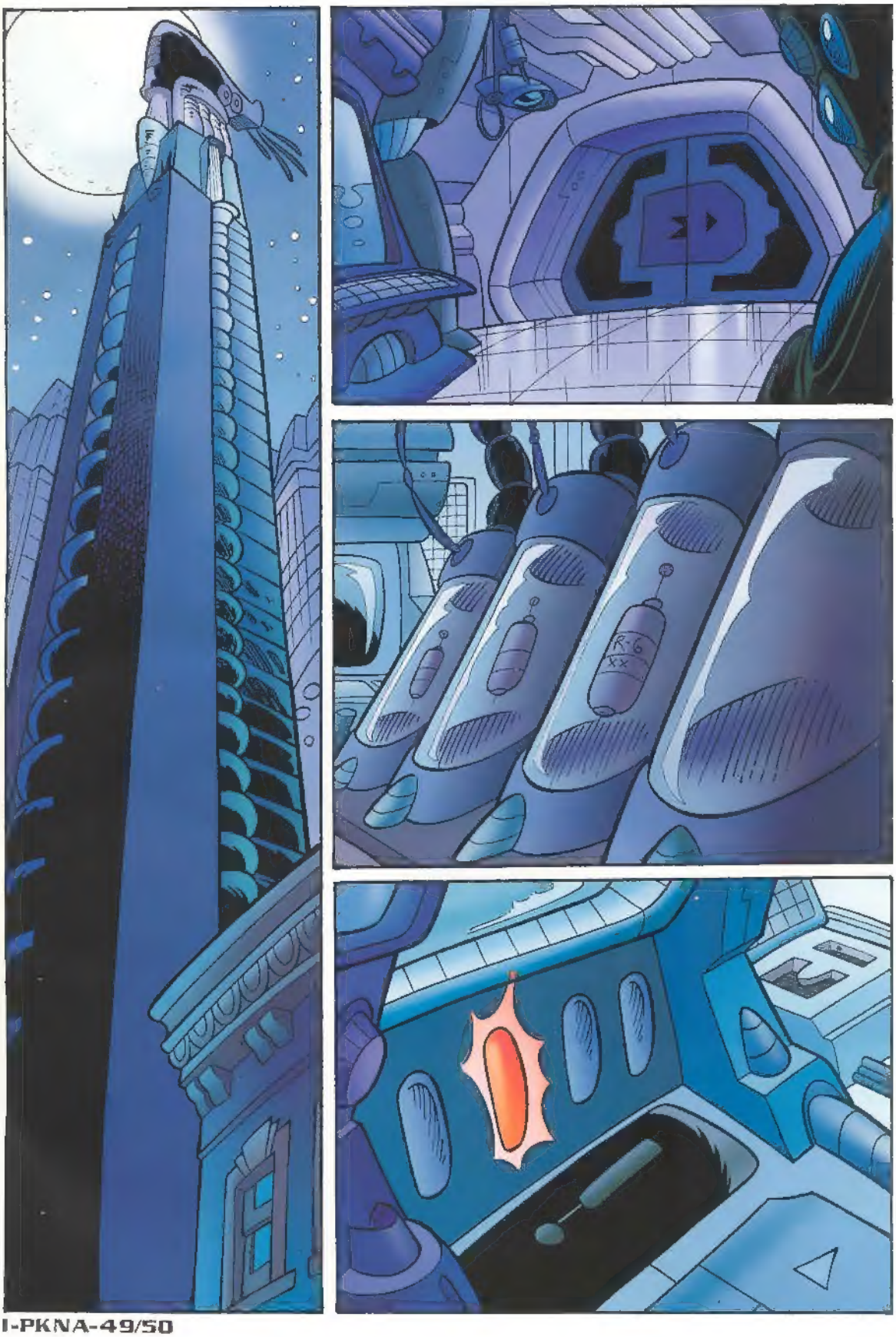
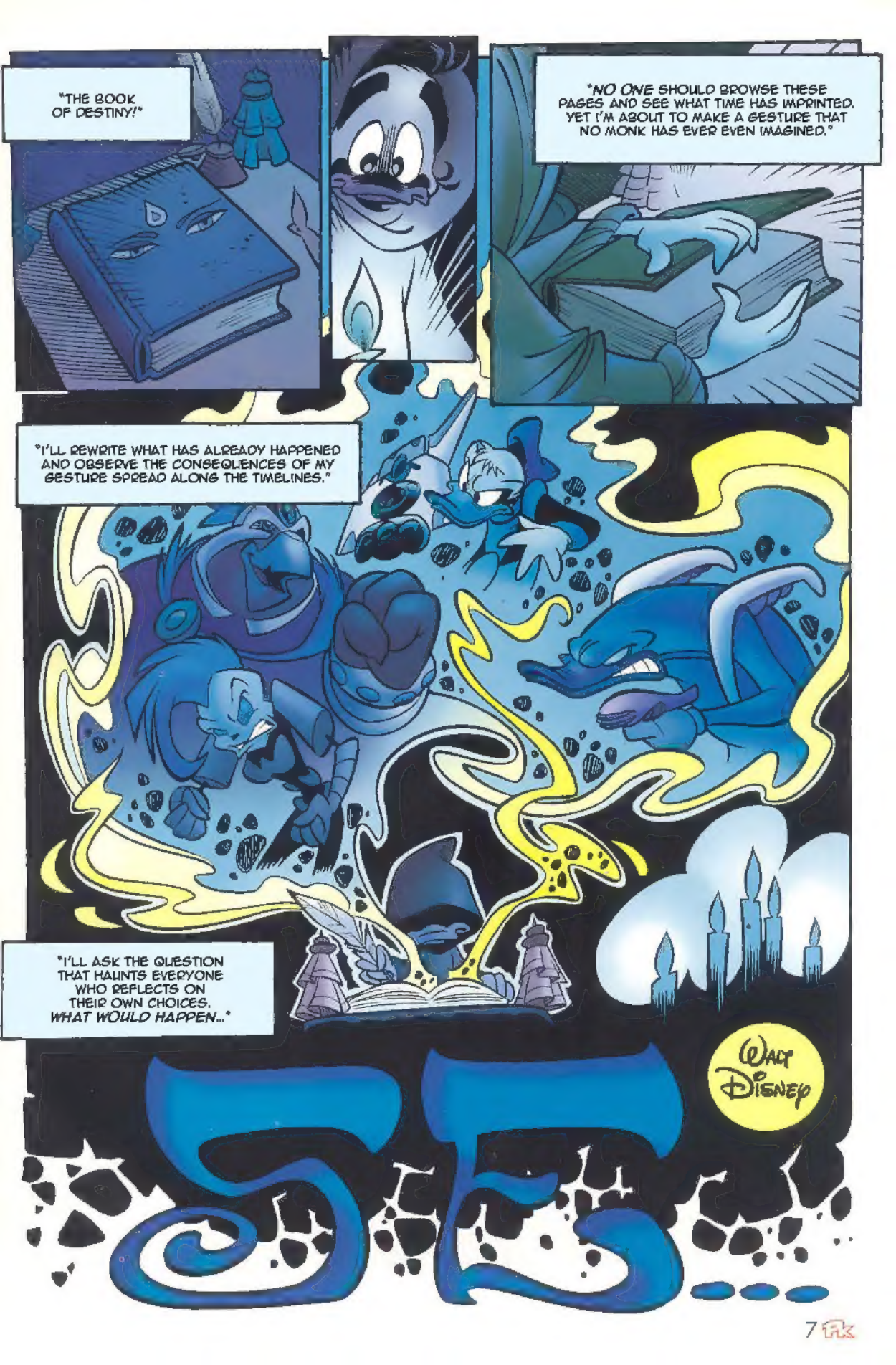


I-PKNA-49/50

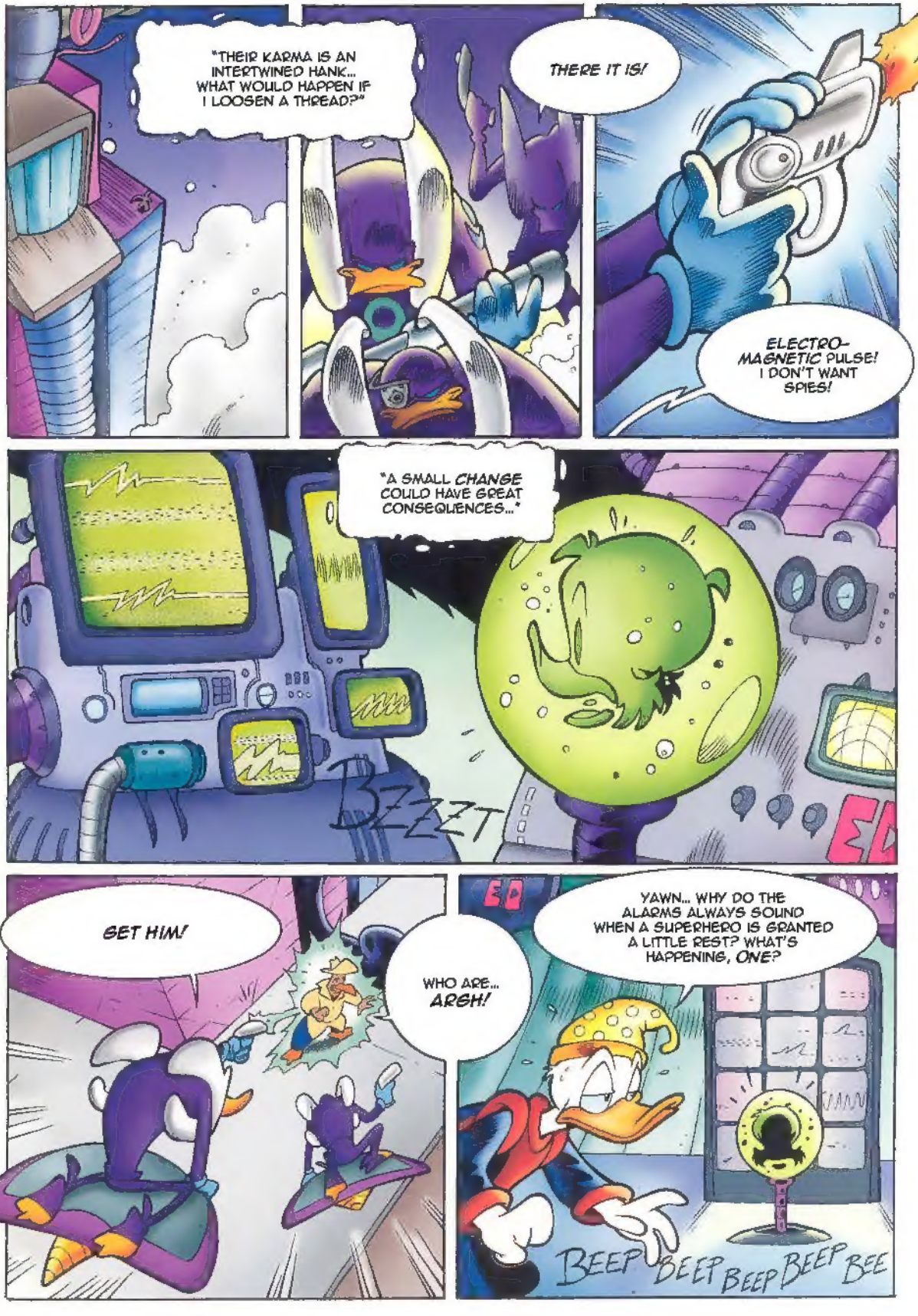
WELCOME BACK, BROTHER SLEEPING DRAGON.
STEPPING ON THESE STONES FILLS MY HEART EVERY TIME WITH JOY, YOUR SERENENESS.
UNFORTUNATELY, BROTHER SLEEPING DRAGON, I FEAR THAT YOUR STAY WITH US WILL BE VERY SHORT.
ONCE AGAIN THE VESTIGES OF YOUR PAST CALL FOR YOU.

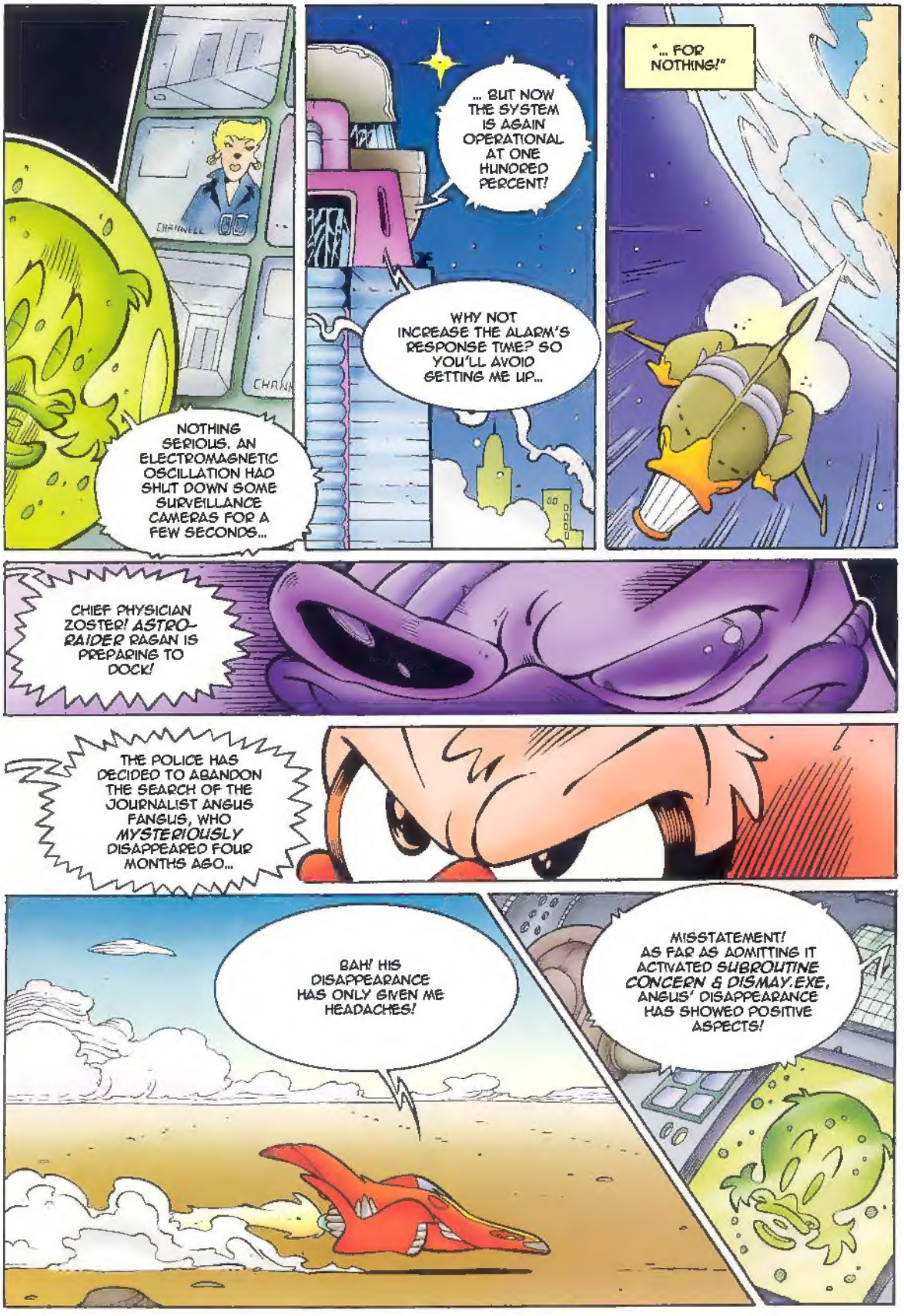
NO! IT'S NOT IMPORTANT!
I'VE LIED. BUT AS THE WANDERING BROTHER WHO TASTES THE STRAWBERRY BEING CHASED BY A TIGER WOULD SAY... "DOES THE LION WARN THE GAZELLE BEFORE THE HUNT BEGINS?"
WHAT WOULD I GAIN IF I EXPLAINED THE GRAVE THREAT TO THE HIGH PRIEST THAT I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR? ONLY NOW I REALIZE THAT ALL THESE YEARS I'VE BEEN UNDER THE ILLUSION THAT I WAS PREPARED TO DEAL WITH THE EVENTS THAT ARE ABOUT TO UNFOLD.
BUT MY DEDICATION TO SCIENCE AND VOLUNTARY EXILE TO DHASAM-BUL ARE BUT FUTILE ATTEMPTS TO REMOVE THE BURDEN WEIGHTING ON MY SHOULDERS. BUT THERE'S STILL A CHANCE TO CHANGE THE FUTURE THAT AWAITS US...

"WHEN I REACHED THE FIRST HIGHER LEVEL OF ENLIGHTENMENT, CROSSING THE THRESHOLD OF COMPREHENSION, I WAS MADE AWARE OF THE GREAT SECRET THE MONKS HAVE GUARDED FOR GENERATIONS."
TUC
CRRR
SDENG
"A SECRET WHICH SHARED ATTESTS THE PASSAGE FROM NOVICE TO ENLIGHTENED BROTHER, BECAUSE ONLY THOSE WHO HAVE UNDERSTOOD THE TRUE NATURE OF EXISTENCE CAN WISELY ADMINISTER SUCH AN EXTRAORDINARY REVELATION..."
"... A POWER SO IMMEASURABLE THAT WITH A SINGLE GESTURE CAN ALTER WHAT HAS BEEN AND WHAT STILL HAS TO HAPPEN."


"THE BOOK OF DESTINY!"
"NO ONE SHOULD BROWSE THESE PAGES AND SEE WHAT TIME HAS IMPRINTED. YET I'M ABOUT TO MAKE A GESTURE THAT NO MONK HAS EVER EVEN IMAGINED."
"I'LL REWRITE WHAT HAS ALREADY HAPPENED AND OBSERVE THE CONSEQUENCES OF MY GESTURE SPREAD ALONG THE TIMELINES."
"I'LL ASK THE QUESTION THAT HAUNTS EVERYONE WHO REFLECTS ON THEIR OWN CHOICES. WHAT WOULD HAPPEN..."
Walt Disney
SF

ZWAK
"ONE OF THE DUCK AVENGER'S FIRST *ENDEAVORS!* I CAN SEE DETAILS THAT WERE UNKNOWN TO ME."
"ANGUS FANGUS, THE JOURNALIST, IS WOUNDED BY MONSTROUS ALIENS AS THEY TRY TO ABDUCT HIM..."
"... AND THE DUCK AVENGER JOURNEYS TO VENUS TO SAVE HIM, WITH THE HELP OF AN *EXTRATERRESTRIAL CREATURE* OF ENORMOUS POWER!"


"THEIR KARMA IS AN INTERTWINED HANK... WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF I LOOSEN A THREAD?"
THERE IT IS!
ELECTRO-MAGNETIC PULSE! I DON'T WANT SPIES!
"A SMALL CHANGE COULD HAVE GREAT CONSEQUENCES..."
BZZZT
GET HIM!
WHO ARE... ARGH!
YAWN... WHY DO THE ALARMS ALWAYS SOUND WHEN A SUPERHERO IS GRANTED A LITTLE REST? WHAT'S HAPPENING, ONE?
BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BEE


NOTHING SERIOUS. AN ELECTROMAGNETIC OSCILLATION HAD SHUT DOWN SOME SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS FOR A FEW SECONDS...
... BUT NOW THE SYSTEM IS AGAIN OPERATIONAL AT ONE HUNDRED PERCENT!
WHY NOT INCREASE THE ALARM'S RESPONSE TIME? SO YOU'LL AVOID GETTING ME UP...
"... FOR NOTHING!"
CHIEF PHYSICIAN ZOSTER! ASTRO-RAIDER RAGAN IS PREPARING TO DOCK!
THE POLICE HAS DECIDED TO ABANDON THE SEARCH OF THE JOURNALIST ANGUS FANGUS, WHO MYSTERIOUSLY DISAPPEARED FOUR MONTHS AGO...
BAH! HIS DISAPPEARANCE HAS ONLY GIVEN ME HEADACHES!
MISSTATEMENT! AS FAR AS ADMITTING IT ACTIVATED SUBROUTINE CONCERN & DISMAY.EXE, ANGUS' DISAPPEARANCE HAS SHOWED POSITIVE ASPECTS!

"IF ANGUS WAS HERE, WE WOULD NEVER HAVE INTERCEPTED NORMAN BATES RUSSEL!"

"HE CAME TO DUCKLAIR TOWER TO TELL ANGUS THE STORY OF THE EXTRATERRESTRIAL SPORES IN HIS FIELD..."

"CERTAINLY A GUY WHO LIVES OUTSIDE THE WORLD! HE'S THE ONLY ONE IN THE NATION WHO DOESN'T KNOW THAT ANGUS IS... *GONE!*"

"... AND A SIMPLE MORPHING PROGRAM WAS ENOUGH TO TRICK HIM!"

"SO WE GOT OUR HANDS ON THE FIRST LEVEL OF LIFE OF OUR DEAR EXTRATERRESTRIAL ENEMIES... A *SPORE* CONTAINING THE LARVAE OF FUTURE EVRONIAN SOLDIERS."

"AND THE ANALYSIS OF RESIDUAL SAND ON THE SPORE DEDUCED ITS PROVENANCE... A MILITARY CAMP IN THE DESERT!"

"TRUTHFULLY, I REMEMBER THAT I'VE SEEN THE MILITARY ON THE *NEWS!*"

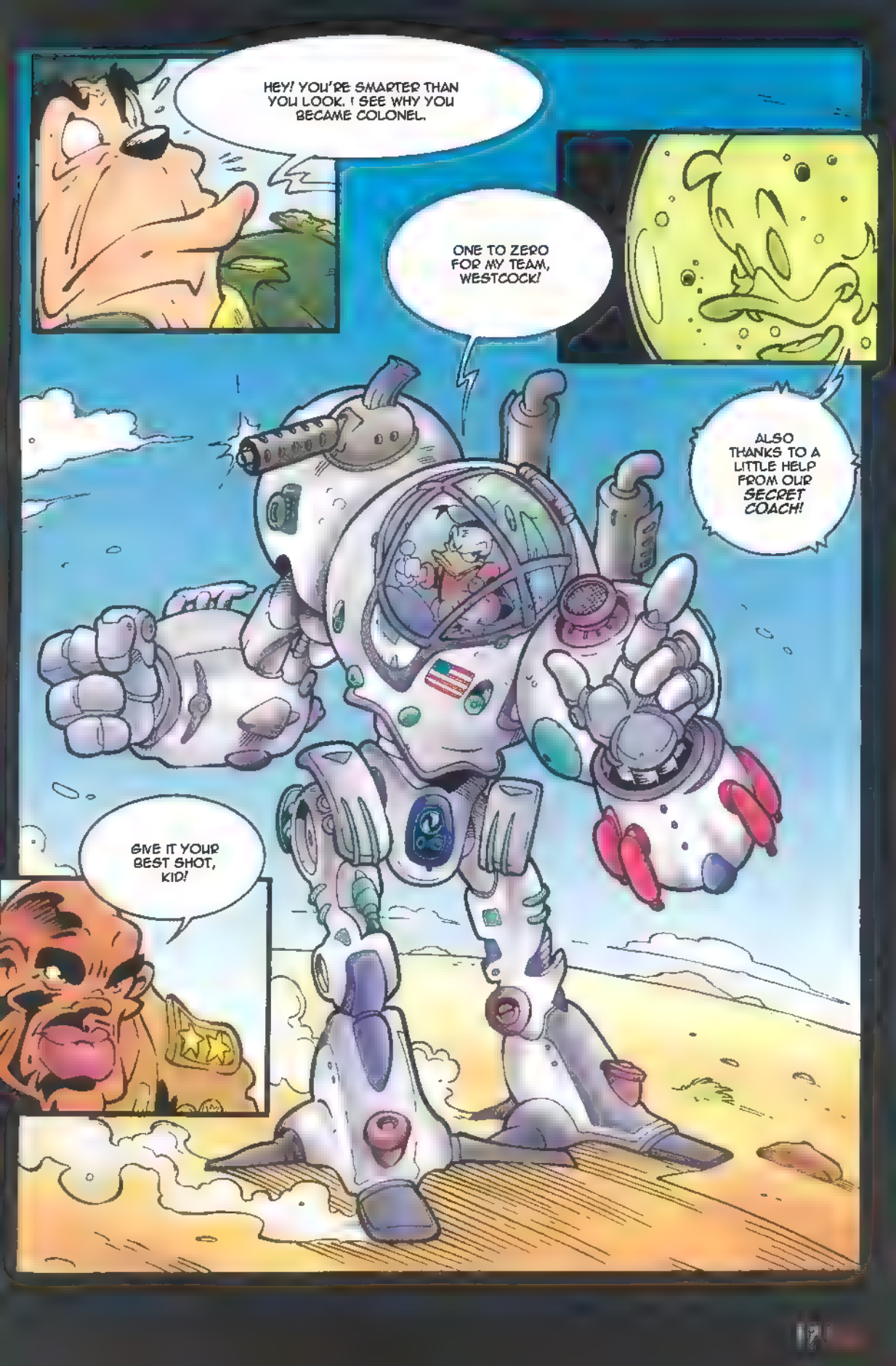
"HMM... EVERYTHING SEEMS TO REPEAT WITHOUT ALTERATIONS. BUT THE POINT OF DIVERGENCE COULD BE CLOSE."
KEEP OUT
JOURNALISTS IN... BATTLE ARRAY AND AGGRESSIVE PROTESTORS! COULD BE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A CLOSER LOOK!
AVENGER, I JUST RECEIVED PROTOCOL GREEN FROM OUR SECRET FRIEND!
LET GO! WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO KNOW!
I URGE YOU TO IMMEDIATELY LEAVE THIS AREA INSTEAD.

I PROTEST! YOU CAN'T TREAT ME LIKE... HMPF!
HE HE! DON'T YOU KNOW THE BEST WAY TO HIDE SOMETHING IS TO PUT RIGHT OUT?
ON THE OTHER HAND, I COULDN'T EXPECT DIFFERENT BEHAVIOR FROM SOLDIERS WHO GROW ALIEN SPORES!
WELL, DUCK AVENGER. DO YOU MEAN TO INTERFERE WITH MILITARY OPERATIONS OF VITAL IMPORTANCE?
YOUR SECRET OPERATIONS COULD COST THE WHOLE PLANET DEARLY.

I DON'T THINK YOU UNDERSTAND THE DANGER OF WHAT YOU'RE DOING.
KNOW THAT WE'RE PREPARING A NEW ERA HERE IN AREA 51! THE FUTURE GENERATIONS WILL REMEMBER THE NAME OF COLONEL WESTCOCK!
I HAVE NO DOUBTS. IT'S DIFFICULT TO FORGET WHO SIGNED YOUR SENTENCE!
"THE EMISSARIES OF EVRON ARE ALREADY ON EARTH TO CREATE AN ALLIANCE OF TRADE. AT THIS VERY MOMENT THEY'RE SITTING AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE WITH GOVERNORS, SCIENTISTS AND GENERALS."
"GREAT. I'LL ADD ESPIONAGE TO YOUR CRIMES! HOWEVER, YOU CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE THE BENEFITS THAT WILL ARRIVE FROM THIS ALLIANCE!"

LISTEN TO ME, WESTCOCK... WE MUSTN'T NEGOTIATE WITH THEM. THEY'LL EXPLOIT EVERY RESOURCE OF EARTH AND THEN DESTROY IT!
TIME'S UP. YOU'VE TALK TOO MUCH.

CRUNCH
COLONEL WESTCOCK, THE CIVILIAN IS... *INTANGIBLE!*
IT'S A *HOLOGRAPHIC PROJECTION!* SOMEONE'S MODIFIED THE SECURITY CAMERAS TO TRANSMIT THE IMAGE OF THE DUCK AVENGER HIDING ELSEWHERE!
ZZZZ
THIS SOMEONE HAS ACCESS TO THE PERIMETER SECURITY CODES. HOWEVER, IF HE'S TRYING TO GET IN, THAT *MASKED BUSYBODY* CAN'T BE FAR AWAY!


HEY! YOU'RE SMARTER THAN YOU LOOK. I SEE WHY YOU BECAME COLONEL.
ONE TO ZERO FOR MY TEAM, WESTCOCK!
ALSO THANKS TO A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR SECRET COACH!
GIVE IT YOUR BEST SHOT, KID!

BRAKKA BRAKKA
AND NOW... LET'S START THE DANCE!
STOP HIM!
FOOOSH
STOP HIM NOW!
BRAGGA DOOM

THIS IS WESTCOCK! ACTIVATE DEFENSE CODE SIGMA- ZERO SIGMA RED!
DEFENSE CODE SIGMA-ZERO SIGMA-RED! CONFIRMED!

HMM... THERE'S A PROBLEM INCOMING. AND IT'S MOVING FAST!
OOOF!
KRONK
IN TRUTH, YOU'RE NOT TERRESTRIAL! DO YOU KNOW HOW I KNOW?
"THE NATIVE VILLAINS CAN'T REFRAIN FROM SAYING TERRIBLE LINES WHEN THEY'RE ABOUT TO HIT ME!"

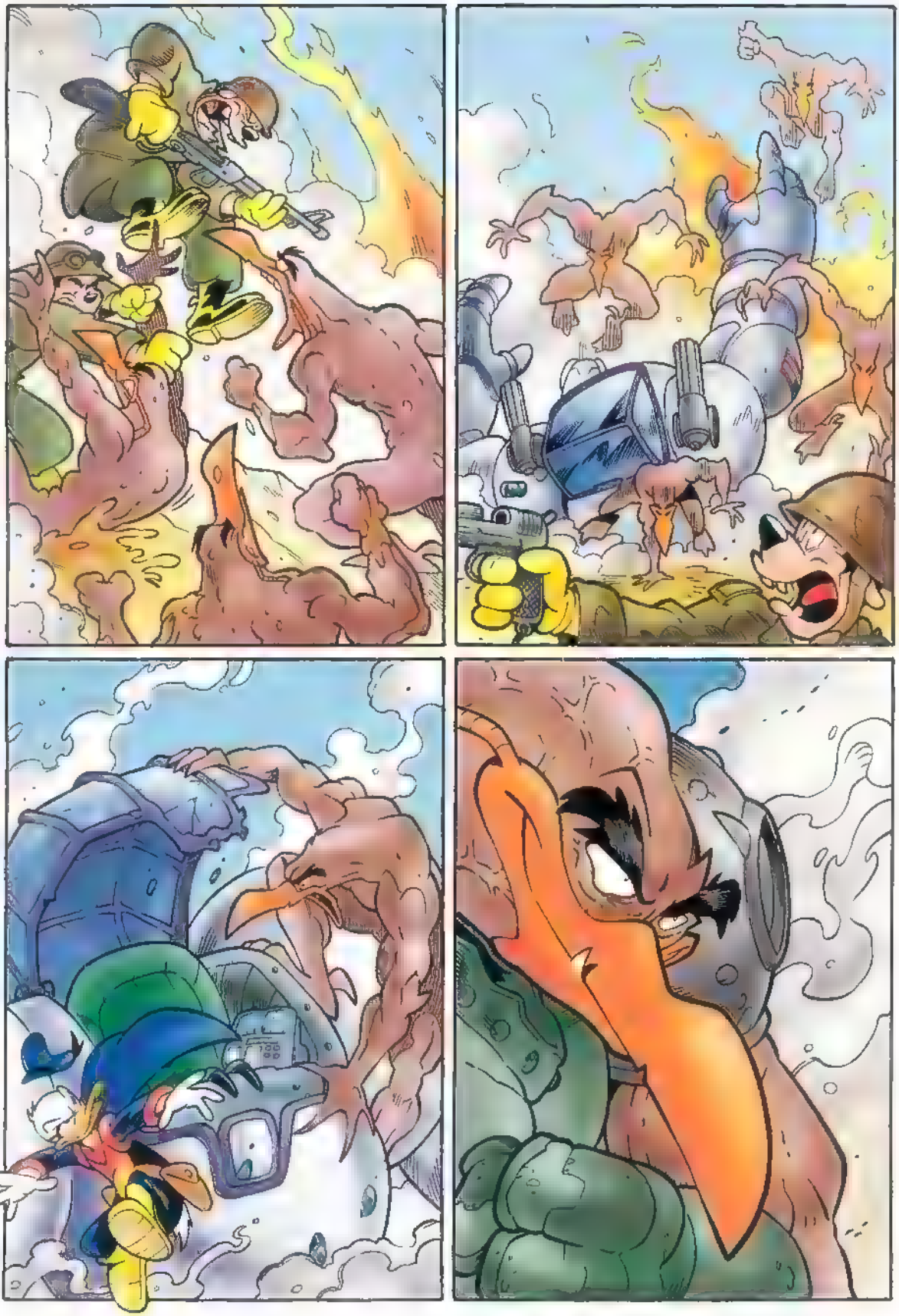
WESTCOCK HAS EXAGGERATED. I NEVER AUTHORIZED THE PRESENCE OF EXTRATERRESTRIAL TROOPS WITHIN THE PERIMETER OF THE BASE.
LIEUTENANT, GET ME A PHONE.
I DON'T LIKE BEING A PUNCHING BAG. SO TAKE THIS HANDFUL AND GO DOWN!
INCREDIBLE! THE MORE I HIT HIM, THE STRONGER HE GETS!
YAAAAAH!
SKRAKKA
SKROUNK

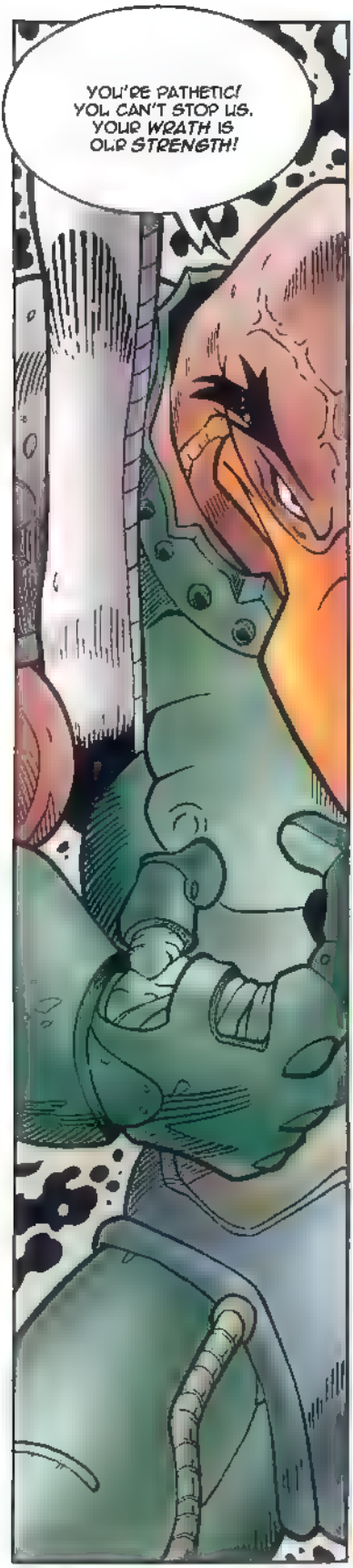
Y-YOUR FACE...
YES, NOW I'M WITHOUT MASK...

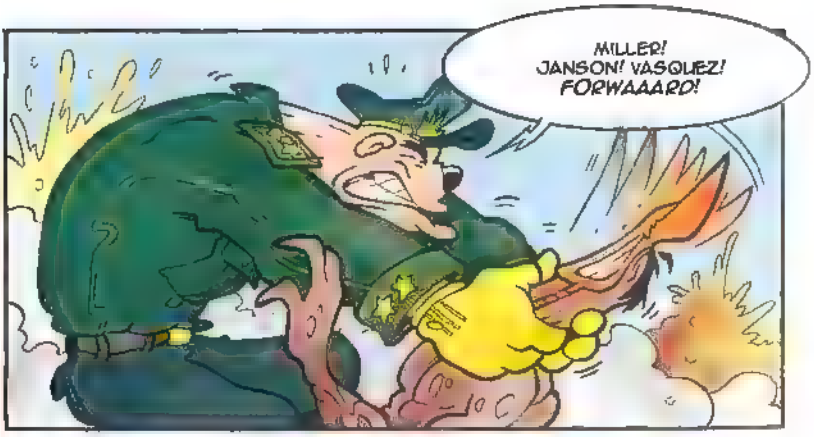
BUT WE EVRONIANS PREFER TO FACE OUR FOES OPENLY!
ANGUS?!

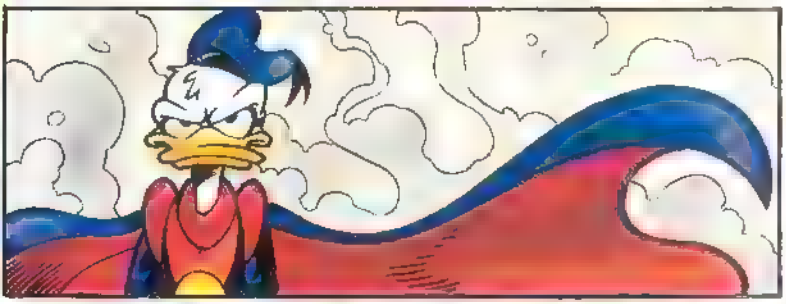
NO! I'M JUST A MEMORY OF THE WEAK MAN WHO CARRIED THAT NAME.
"ANGUS FANGUS WAS THE PERFECT GUINEA PIG FOR CHIEF PHYSICIAN ZOSTER'S EVOLUTIONARY PROJECT. NEW HORIZONS WERE OPENED FOR THE EVRONIAN PEOPLE THANKS TO HIS EXPERIMENTS."
"THE SURPRISING RESULTS ATTRACTED THE ATTENTION OF BRANCH CHIEF GORTHAN, WHO GRANTED ME THE HONOR OF ENTERING THE FORGE OF HIS CREATIONS... THE WELL!"
"THUS, FROM AN EVOLUTION OF ANGUS I WAS BORN... THE FIRST OF MANY!"

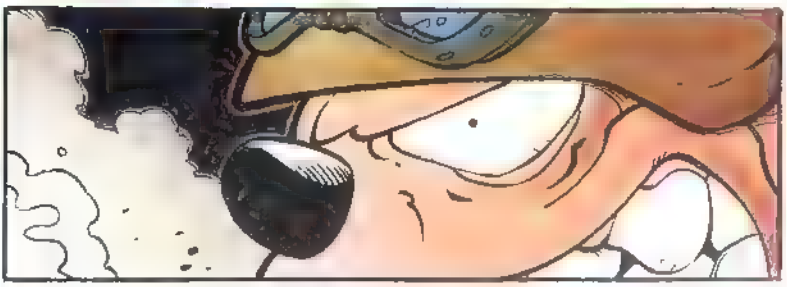
"AND THESE ARE MY BROTHERS!"
IF WE WEREN'T ON THE VERGE OF DISASTER, I WOULD HAVE LAUGHED!
THE AVENGER WAS RIGHT, WE WERE DECEIVED. BUT THERE'S YET TO BE SOMEONE BORN, MAN OR ALIEN, WHO CAN MAKE FUN OF COLONEL CLINT E. WESTCOCK WITHOUT REGRETTING IT!
MECHANIZED TROOPS... TO ATTACK!
I BELIEVE YOU'VE SEEN ENOUGH, MR. PRESIDENT. LET ME GIVE THE ORDER!



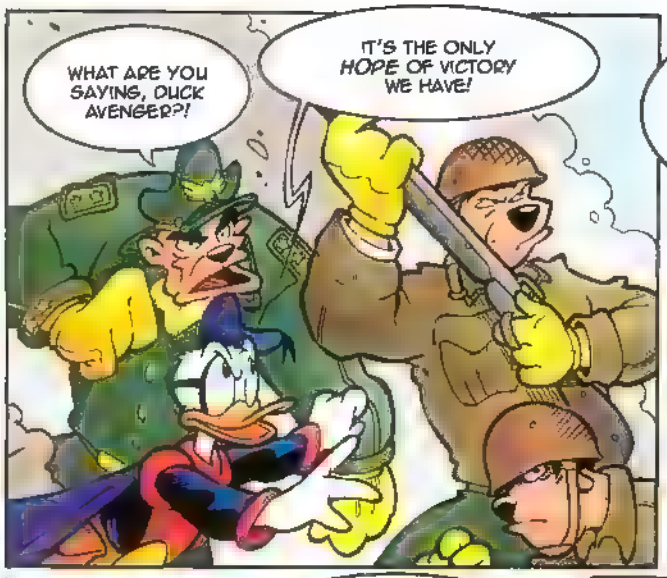

YOU'RE PATHETIC! YOU CAN'T STOP US. YOUR WRATH IS OUR STRENGTH!


MILLER! JANSON! VASQUEZ! FORWAAARD!

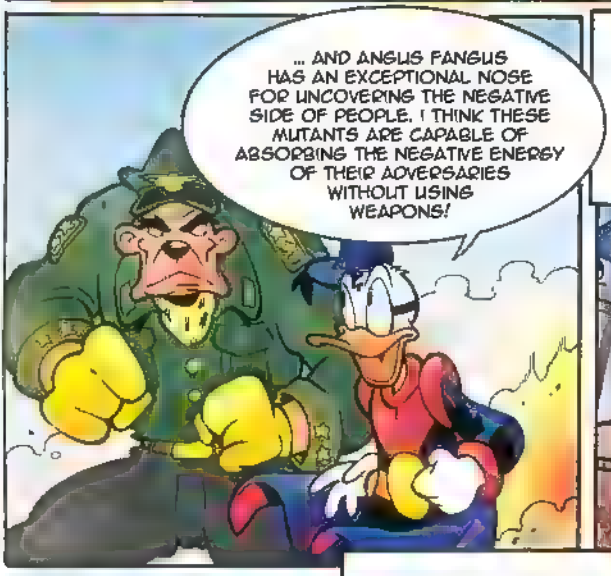




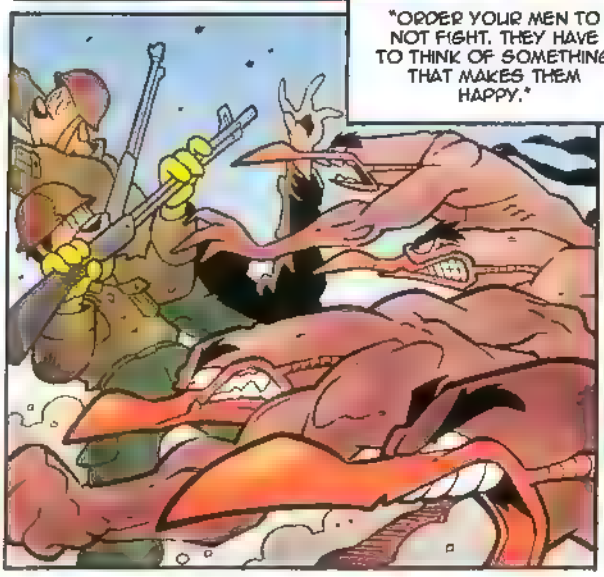
STOP THEM, WESTCOCK. ORDER YOUR MEN TO IMMEDIATELY CEASE FIRE.


WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, DUCK AVENGER?!
IT'S THE ONLY HOPE OF VICTORY WE HAVE!

REMEMBER WHAT THAT MUTANT SAID. EVRONIANS ARE ABLE TO ABSORB THE EMOTIONS OF THEIR VICTIMS...

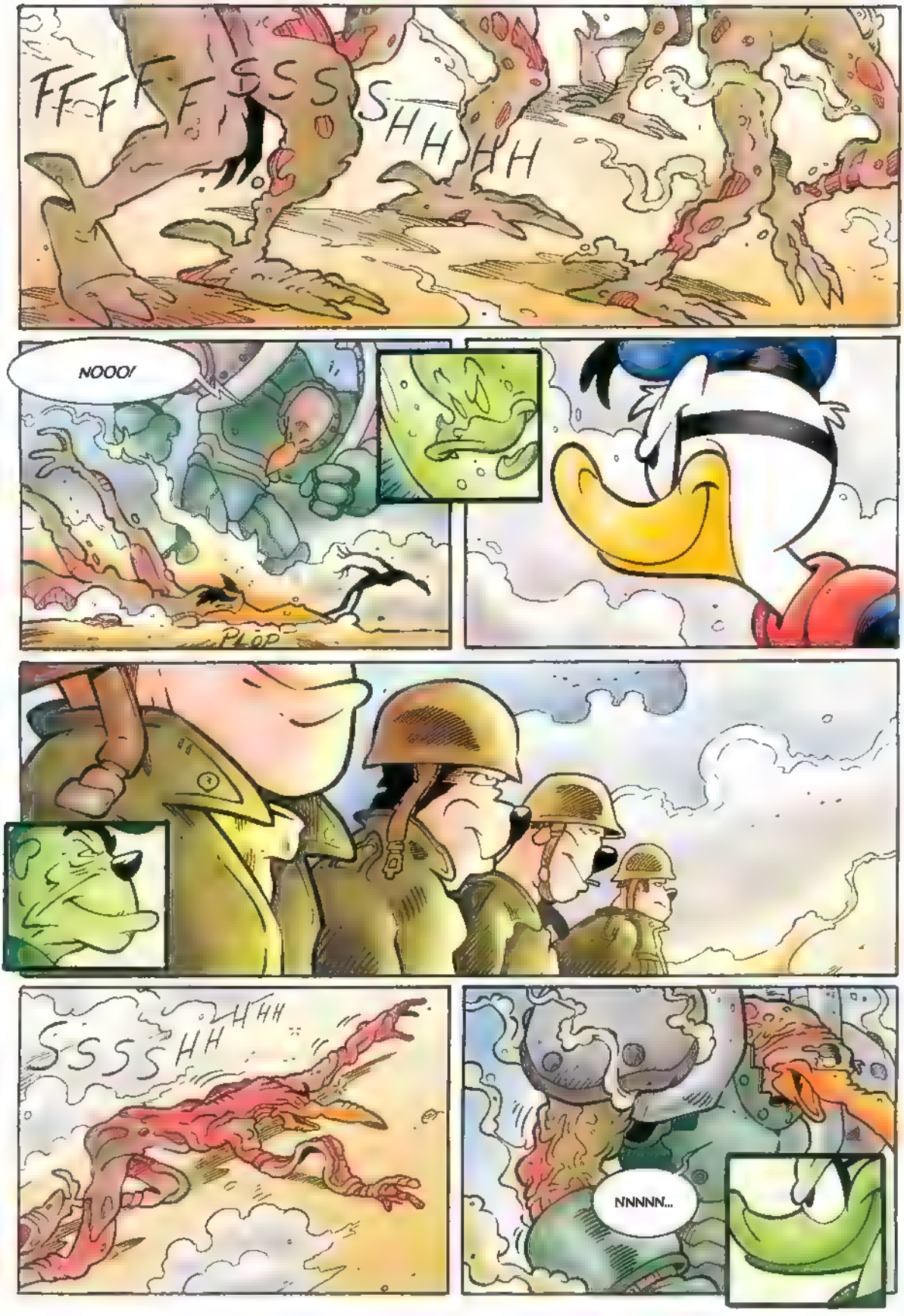

... AND ANGUS FANGUS HAS AN EXCEPTIONAL NOSE FOR UNCOVERING THE NEGATIVE SIDE OF PEOPLE. I THINK THESE MUTANTS ARE CAPABLE OF ABSORBING THE NEGATIVE ENERGY OF THEIR ADVERSARIES WITHOUT USING WEAPONS!

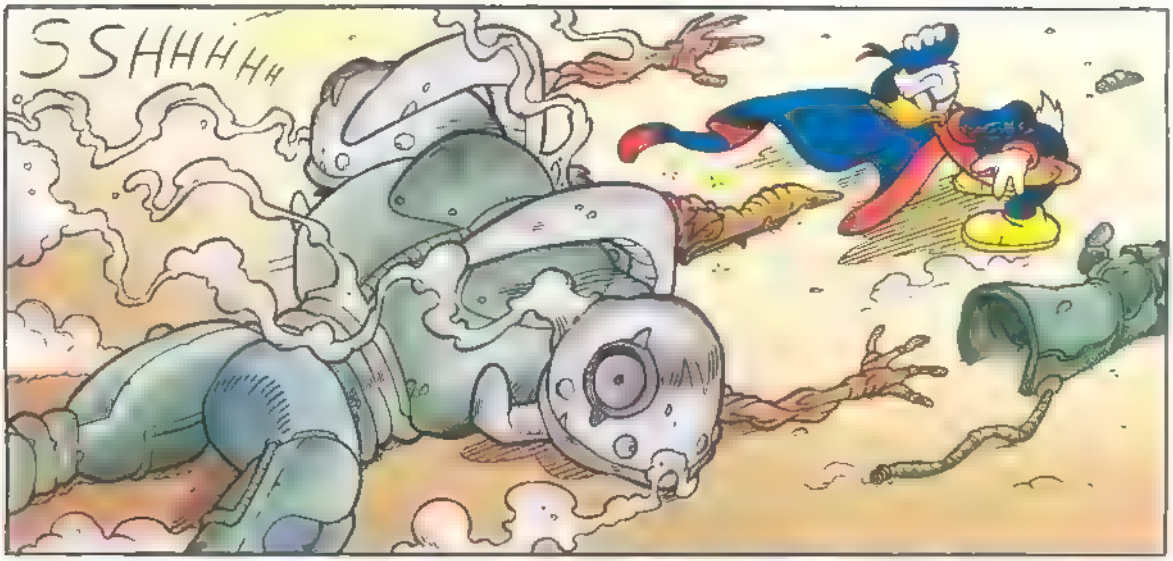
"DURING THE FIGHT I REALIZED THAT THE MORE I WENT INTO RAGE, THE STRONGER THE MONSTER GOT. THE DESTRUCTIVE WILL OF THE SOLDIER WILL ONLY MAKE THEM MORE POWERFUL!"

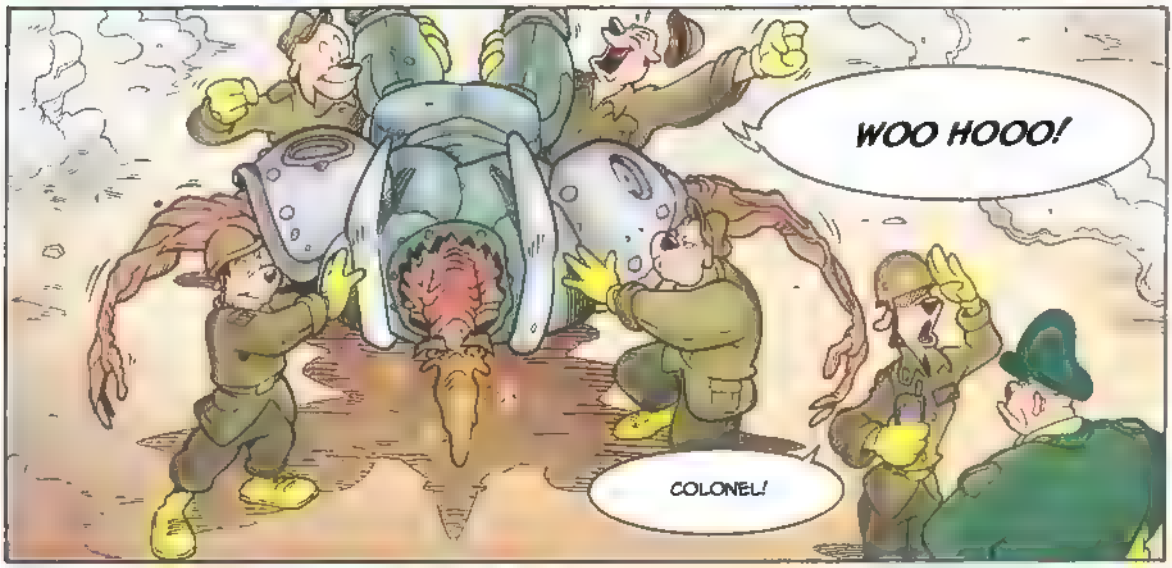

"ORDER YOUR MEN TO NOT FIGHT. THEY HAVE TO THINK OF SOMETHING THAT MAKES THEM HAPPY."

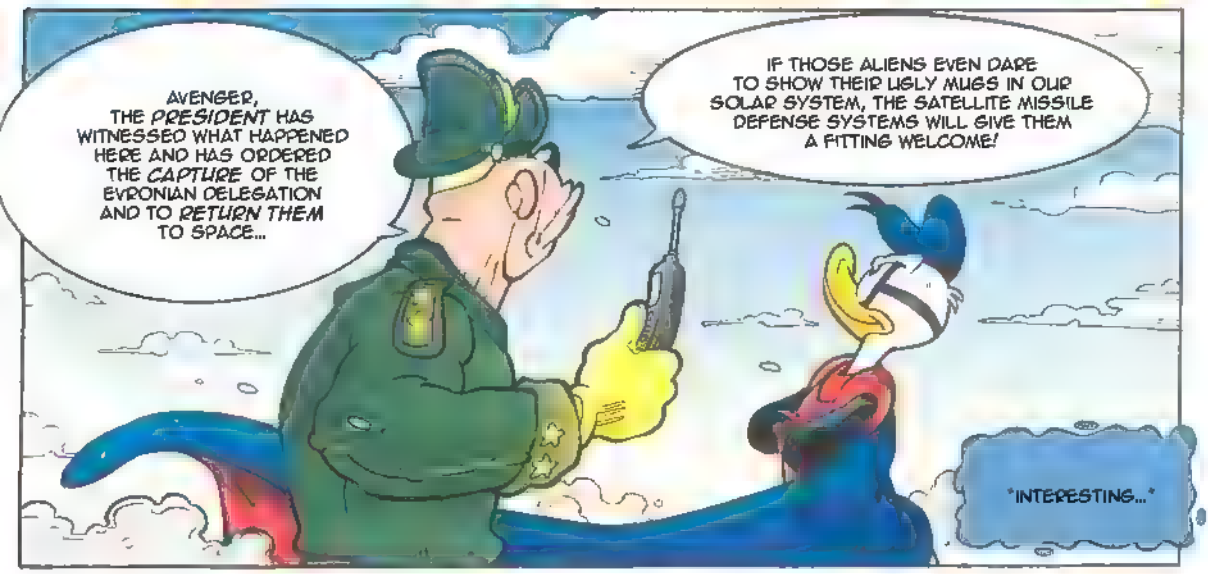
I DON'T KNOW WHY I'M LISTENING TO YOU, BUT SO FAR YOU'VE SHOWN MORE GOOD SENSE THAN A LOT OF BIGWIGS.

PUT DOWN THE GUNS, BOYS. CONCENTRATE ON MEMORIES MORE... RELAXING!
COME ON, WESTCOCK! THAT GOES FOR YOU TOO. THINK OF GRANDMA'S APPLE PIE!


FFFFFFSSSSHHHH
NOOO!
PLOP
SSSSHHHH
NNNNN...

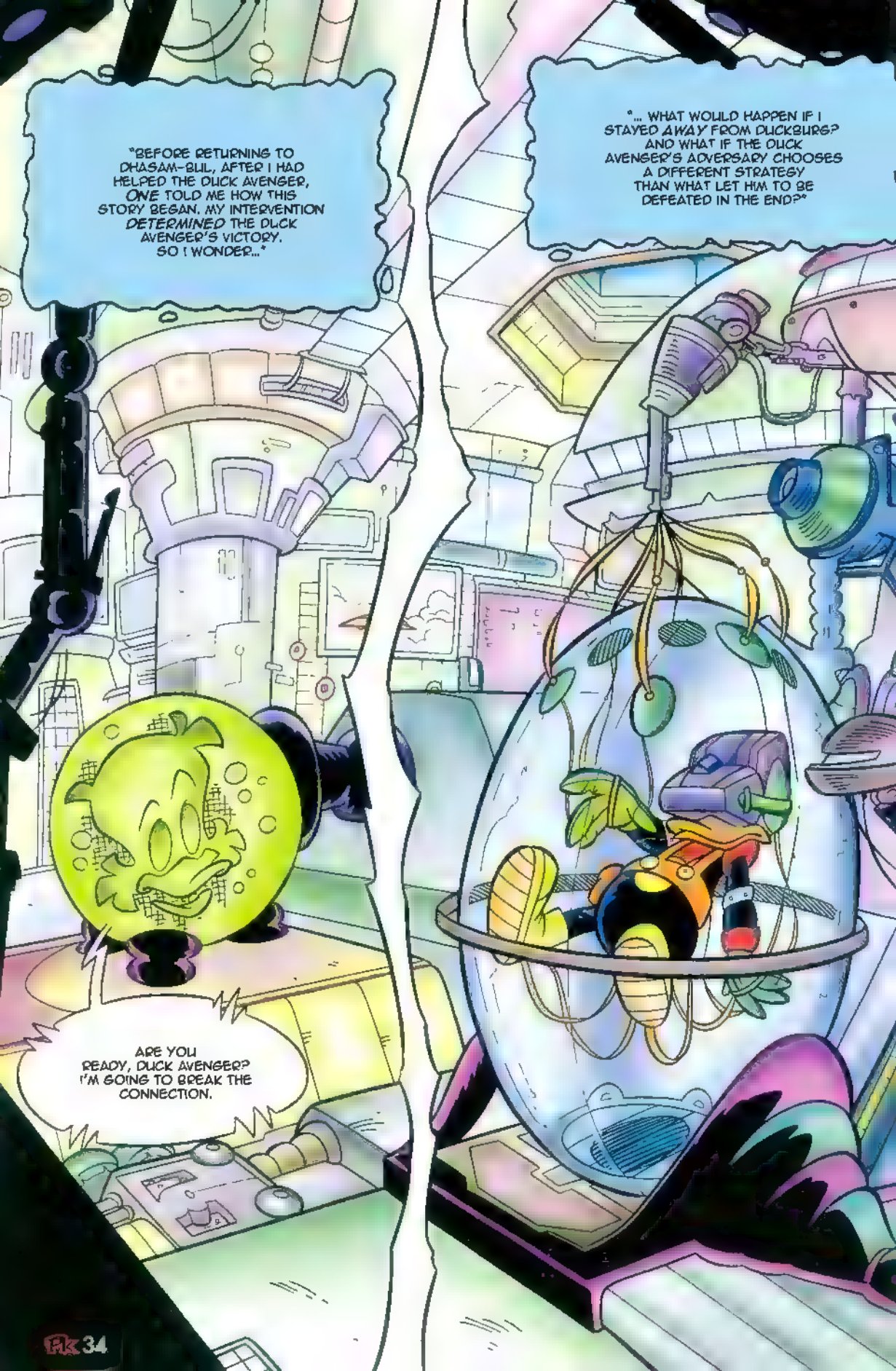

SSHHHHH


WOO HOOO!
COLONEL!


AVENGER, THE PRESIDENT HAS WITNESSED WHAT HAPPENED HERE AND HAS ORDERED THE CAPTURE OF THE EVRONIAN DELEGATION AND TO RETURN THEM TO SPACE...
IF THOSE ALIENS EVEN DARE TO SHOW THEIR UGLY MUGS IN OUR SOLAR SYSTEM, THE SATELLITE MISSILE DEFENSE SYSTEMS WILL GIVE THEM A FITTING WELCOME!
"INTERESTING..."

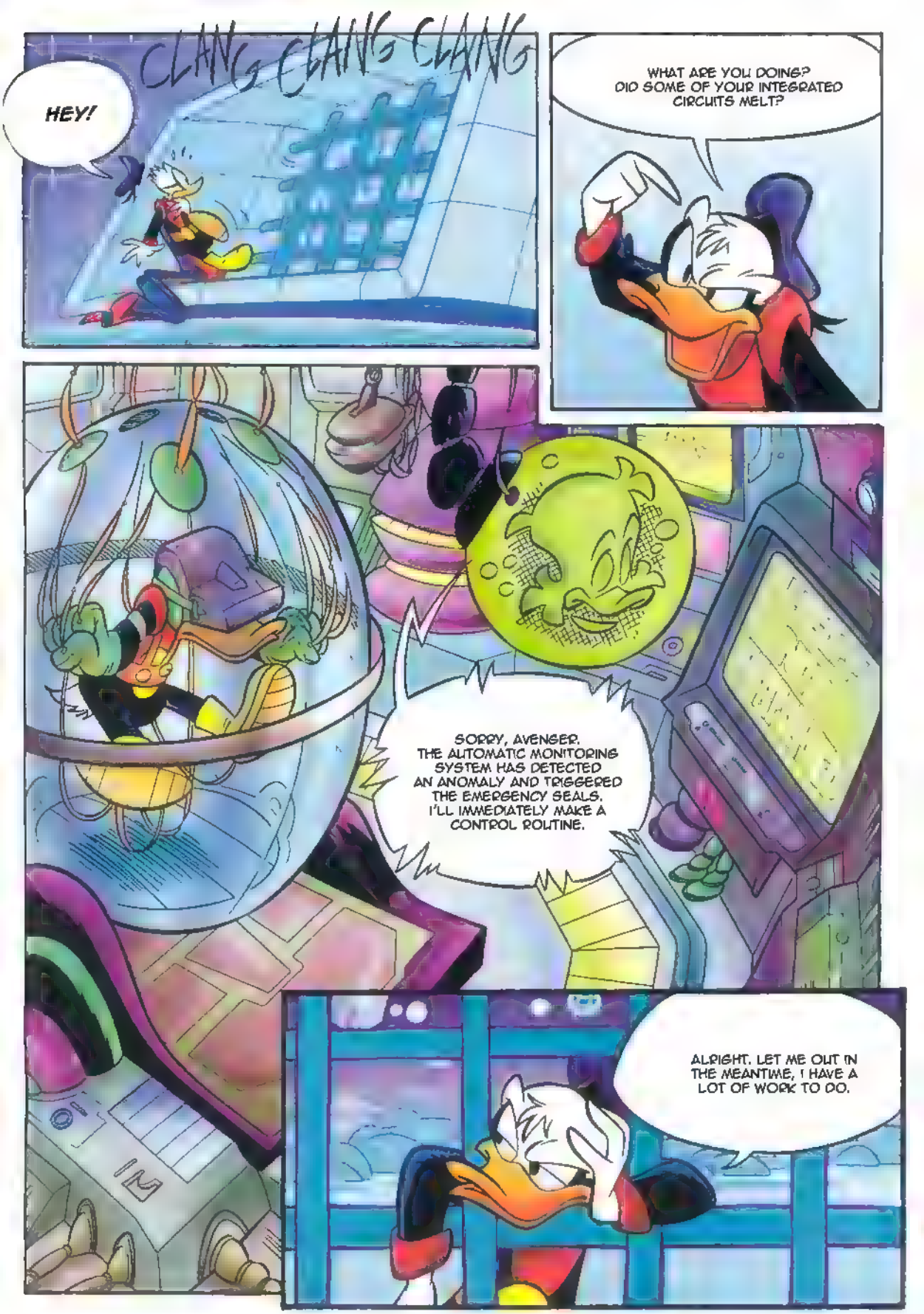
HOWEVER, IT'S NEEDLESS TO FURTHER OBSERVE THE NEW FUTURE OF THE WAR WITH THE EVRONIAN PEOPLE, BECAUSE WHAT I SAW CAN ONLY WORSEN MY SITUATION...
WHAT I'VE WITNESSED IS A DEMONSTRATION OF THE FAVORITE PHRASE OF THE BROTHER WHO RINGS THE BELL: "NO MAN IS AN ISLAND." BY ALTERING ANGUS FANGUS' DESTINY, THE FATE OF TWO ENTIRE WORLDS IS RADICALLY CHANGED.
TRUMP
TRUMP

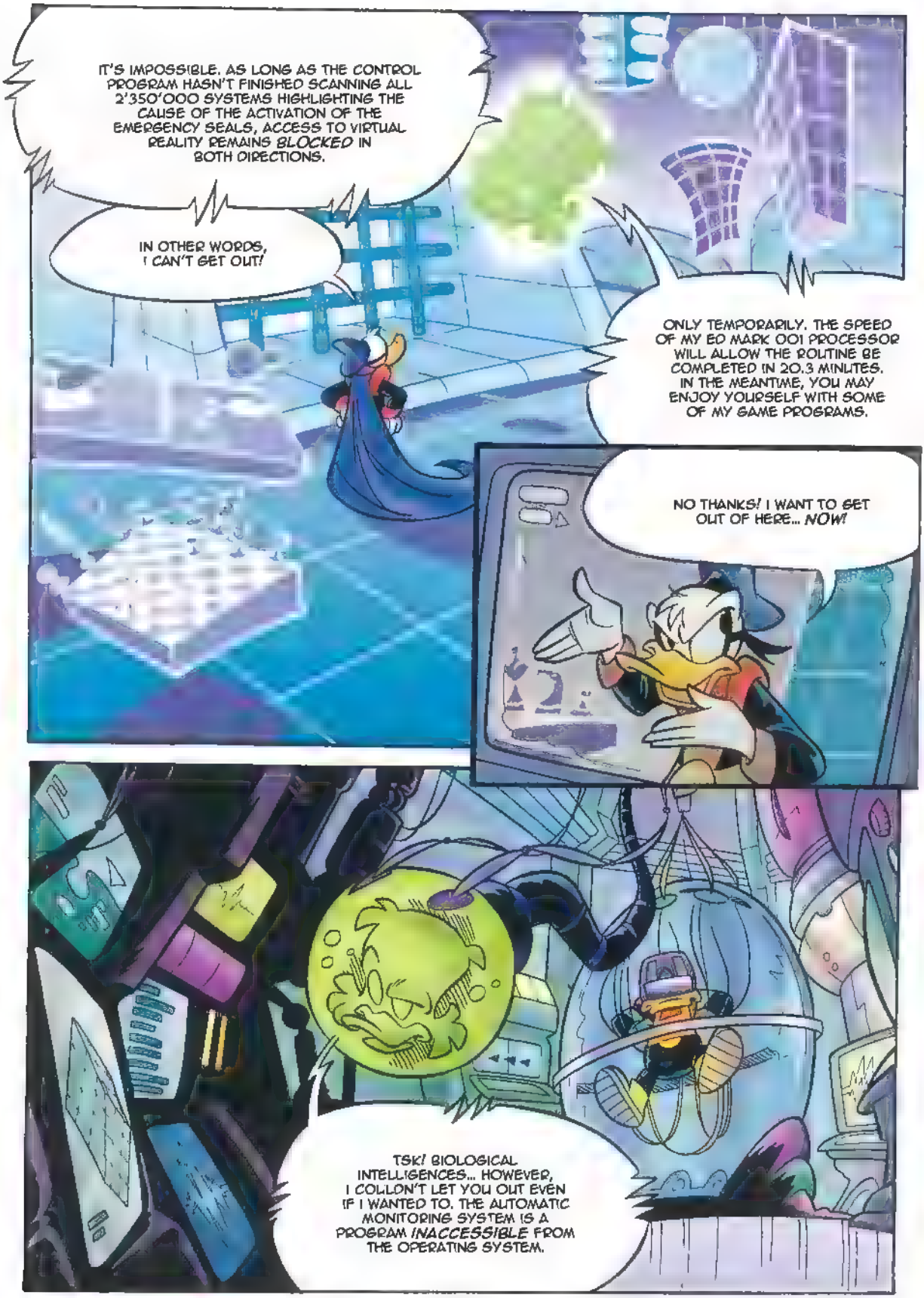
IT'S EVIDENT THAT, IN THE NEW FUTURE I JUST OBSERVED, ANGUS FANGUS WON'T RETURN TO EARTH AND THAT'S UNACCEPTABLE. I NEED THAT JOURNALIST *HERE* AND *NOW!*
MAYBE I SHOULD TURN MY ATTENTION TO AN EVENT I WAS PERSONALLY INVOLVED IN.
A FEW YEARS AGO, WHEN I WAS STILL A NOVICE, I LEFT THE MONASTERY TO RETURN TO DUCKBURG AND HELP THE DUCK AVENGER AGAINST AN UNEXPECTED ADVERSARY.
WOULD DESTINY TAKE A MORE FAVORABLE TURN IF I *AVOIDED* MAKING THAT TRIP? I'D HAVE TO ALTER THE BOOK'S PAGES AGAIN...
... BUT I'VE ALREADY MADE MY CHOICE!

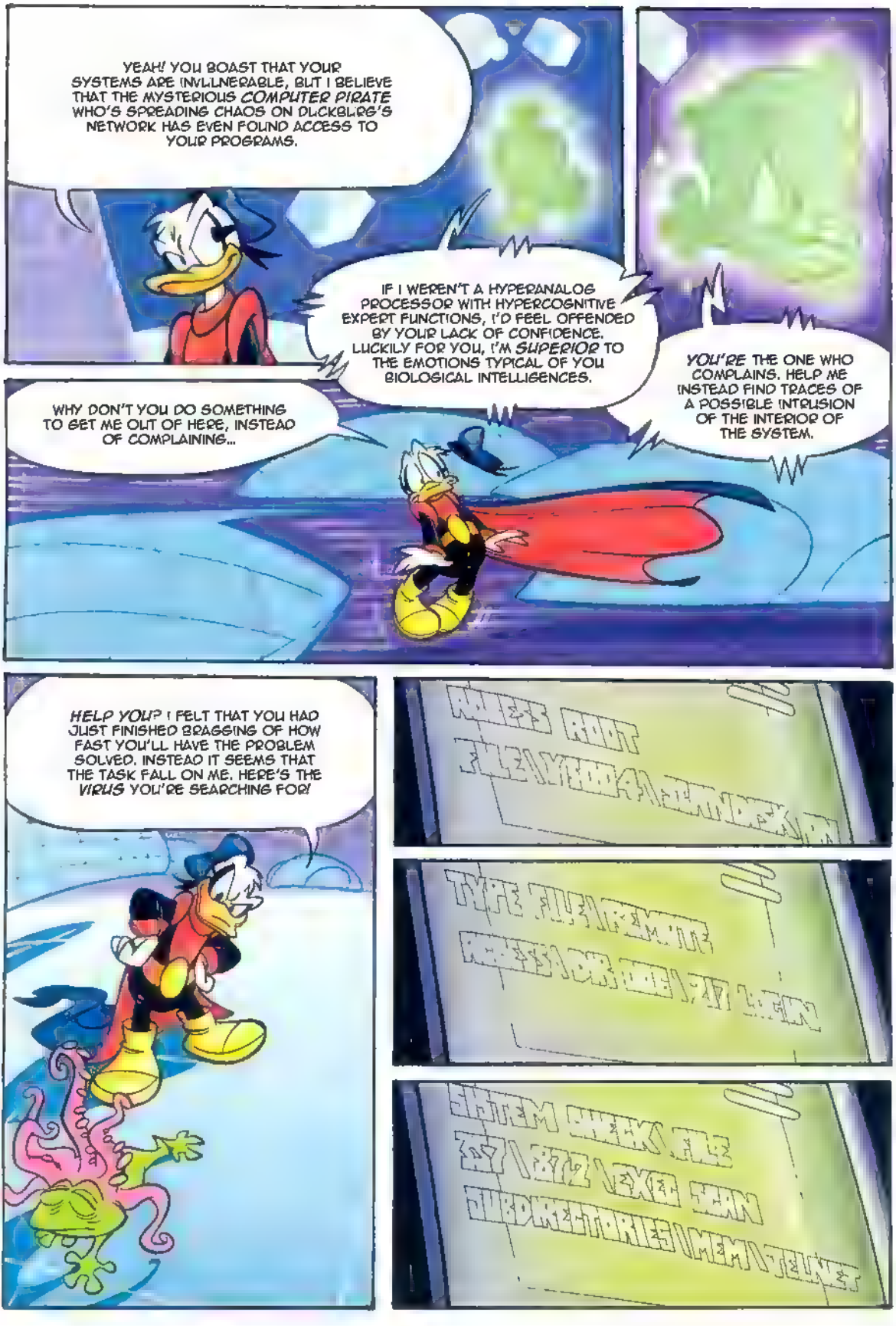

"BEFORE RETURNING TO DHASAM-BUL, AFTER I HAD HELPED THE DUCK AVENGER, ONE TOLD ME HOW THIS STORY BEGAN. MY INTERVENTION DETERMINED THE DUCK AVENGER'S VICTORY. SO I WONDER..."
"... WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF I STAYED AWAY FROM DUCKBURG? AND WHAT IF THE DUCK AVENGER'S ADVERSARY CHOOSES A DIFFERENT STRATEGY THAN WHAT LET HIM TO BE DEFEATED IN THE END?"
ARE YOU READY, DUCK AVENGER? I'M GOING TO BREAK THE CONNECTION.

SO, AVENGER... WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE VIRTUAL REALITY?
A BIT TOO *REALISTIC*, I'D SAY! I WAS ALMOST HIT BY AN ELECTRONIC BUS.
IT WAS A VECTOR OF DATA OF THE DATABASE AND ALWAYS TAKES *PRECEDENCE*. THERE ARE TRAFFIC RULES EVEN ON THE COMPUTER NETWORK, YOU SHOULD KNOW.
STARTING THE DISCONNECTION PROGRAM.
IF YOU'D SAID IT BEFORE, I WOULD HAVE TAKEN THE DRIVER TEST FOR VIRTUAL NAVIGATION.
BLAM

A VIRTUAL WASP IS JUST WHAT I WAS MISSING! WITH MY LUCK, IF I HAD A PICNIC IN CYBERSPACE, I'D BE ASSAULTED BY THOUSANDS OF ELECTRONIC ANTS!
OW!
BZZZZZT
DISCONNECTION COMPLETE. HEAD TO THE EXIT IN FRONT OF YOU.


CLANG CLANG CLANG
HEY!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? DID SOME OF YOUR INTEGRATED CIRCUITS MELT?
SORRY, AVENGER. THE AUTOMATIC MONITORING SYSTEM HAS DETECTED AN ANOMALY AND TRIGGERED THE EMERGENCY SEALS. I'LL IMMEDIATELY MAKE A CONTROL ROUTINE.
ALRIGHT. LET ME OUT IN THE MEANTIME, I HAVE A LOT OF WORK TO DO.


IT'S IMPOSSIBLE. AS LONG AS THE CONTROL PROGRAM HASN'T FINISHED SCANNING ALL 2'350'000 SYSTEMS HIGHLIGHTING THE CAUSE OF THE ACTIVATION OF THE EMERGENCY SEALS, ACCESS TO VIRTUAL REALITY REMAINS BLOCKED IN BOTH DIRECTIONS.
IN OTHER WORDS, I CAN'T GET OUT!
ONLY TEMPORARILY. THE SPEED OF MY EO MARK 001 PROCESSOR WILL ALLOW THE ROUTINE BE COMPLETED IN 20.3 MINUTES. IN THE MEANTIME, YOU MAY ENJOY YOURSELF WITH SOME OF MY GAME PROGRAMS.
NO THANKS! I WANT TO GET OUT OF HERE... NOW!
TSK! BIOLOGICAL INTELLIGENCES... HOWEVER, I COULDN'T LET YOU OUT EVEN IF I WANTED TO. THE AUTOMATIC MONITORING SYSTEM IS A PROGRAM INACCESSIBLE FROM THE OPERATING SYSTEM.


YEAH! YOU BOAST THAT YOUR SYSTEMS ARE INVULNERABLE, BUT I BELIEVE THAT THE MYSTERIOUS *COMPUTER PIRATE* WHO'S SPREADING CHAOS ON DUCKBURG'S NETWORK HAS EVEN FOUND ACCESS TO YOUR PROGRAMS.
IF I WEREN'T A HYPERANALOG PROCESSOR WITH HYPERCOGNITIVE EXPERT FUNCTIONS, I'D FEEL OFFENDED BY YOUR LACK OF CONFIDENCE. LUCKILY FOR YOU, I'M *SUPERIOR* TO THE EMOTIONS TYPICAL OF YOU BIOLOGICAL INTELLIGENCES.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO COMPLAINS. HELP ME INSTEAD FIND TRACES OF A POSSIBLE INTRUSION OF THE INTERIOR OF THE SYSTEM.
WHY DON'T YOU DO SOMETHING TO GET ME OUT OF HERE, INSTEAD OF COMPLAINING...
HELP YOU? I FELT THAT YOU HAD JUST FINISHED BRAGGING OF HOW FAST YOU'LL HAVE THE PROBLEM SOLVED. INSTEAD IT SEEMS THAT THE TASK FALL ON ME. HERE'S THE *VIRUS* YOU'RE SEARCHING FOR!

GULP!
THAT'S THE ANTIVIRUS!

THE BEHAVIOR OF THE ANTIVIRUS IS DEFINITELY ANOMALOUS. I ENTERED THE DUCK AVENGER'S PHYSIOMETRIC MATRIX INTO THE SYSTEM SO HE WOULDN'T BE MISTAKEN FOR AN INTRUDER.
IT'S THE SECOND TIME I'VE RISKED LOSING MY FEATHERS. I'M STARTING TO GET TIRED OF THESE CONTINGENCIES! GET ME OUT! NOW!
IT'S NECESSARY TO CHECK ONE AT A TIME THE MNEMONIC TRANSFER SYSTEMS THAT ALLOW ACCESS TO VIRTUAL REALITY. I'LL UNFORTUNATELY REQUIRE MORE TIME THAN EXPECTED.
IT'S JUST ANOTHER EXCUSE FOR KEEPING ME IN HERE! I'M MORE AND MORE CONVINCED THAT THE SUPER-HACKER MANAGED TO INFECT YOUR OPERATING SYSTEM.
I'LL PRETEND I DIDN'T HEAR THAT. YOU'RE TOO AGITATED, AVENGER. RELAX!
THERE! I JUST FOUND THE NOT COMPLETELY ERASED TRACE OF A DIRECT PATH TO A PROTECTED MEMOR LOCATION.

OKAY! I'LL FIND THE WAY OUT MYSELF!
STOP, DUCK AVENGER! AN UNAUTHORIZED INTERVENTION WILL BE RECOGNIZED AS AN ATTEMPT TO *TAMPER* WITH THE SYSTEM...
... AND *AUTOMATICALLY ACTIVATE* THE DEBUG ROUTINE!
I CAN'T. YOU WANTED TO DO IT YOUR WAY, BUT I'LL GIVE YOU A SUGGESTION...
ESCAPE!
STOP THEM, ONE! QUICK!
SBRANG

POW
TA-CLAK
SBRANG
IF YOU HAD LET ME WORK WITHOUT INTERRUPTIONS, I'D HAVE ALREADY RESOLVED THE PROBLEM.
SDE
URGH!
IT'S YOUR FAULT THAT I'M IN THIS SITUATION! DO SOMETHING!
POW
SBRANG
GLOM! SEEMS LIKE I'M IN TROUBLE!

TA-CLAC
QUICK! ENTER THE DOOR AT THE END OF THE CORRIDOR!
DON'T YOU SEE I'M BUSY?
I SAID ENTER! IT'S YOUR ONLY CHANCE!
ALRIGHT. I'LL TRY.

ONE?!
NO... NO!
AS I IMAGINED. YOU'RE THE REAL AVENGER. THE IMPOSTOR REACTED IN WAYS TOO HOSTILE WHEN FINDING OUT THAT HE COULDN'T EXIT VIRTUAL REALITY. HE CLEARLY HAD SOMETHING TO HIDE.
AND WHEN I FOUND THE TRACE OF A DIRECT PATH TO A PROTECTED MEMORY LOCATION, MY SUSPICIONS BECAME STRONGER.

STOP BEING COMPLACENT OF YOUR INVESTIGATIVE TALENT AND EXPLAIN WHAT'S HAPPENED! EVER SINCE THE WASP STUNG ME, I'VE BEEN FLOATING IN HERE LIKE A FISH!
YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT A REPRESENTATION OF VIRTUAL PERSONALITY SIMILAR TO MINE... I MIGHT BE OFFENDED!
HOWEVER, YOUR PERSONALITY FILES HAVE SIMPLY BEEN TRANSFERRED FROM THE VIRTUAL BODY TO A FILE IN A DIFFERENT MEMORY LOCATION. AND, OBVIOUSLY, SOMEONE HAS TAKEN YOUR PLACE.
WAIT! IT'S A TRAP!
OF COURSE! A TRAP FOR YOU! AND YOU FELL RIGHT IN IT!

I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU MANAGED TO DENY ME DIRECT ACCESS TO THE MEMORY LOCATION WHERE YOU HAD TRANSFERRED THE REAL DUCK AVENGER, BUT ONCE I IDENTIFIED THE FILE I MADE SURE THAT YOU OPENED IT YOURSELF. IT WAS THE ONLY WAY TO SAVE YOURSELF FROM THE ANTIVIRUS.
VERY CLEVER! BUT I ALREADY HAVE WHAT I WANT... THE DUCK AVENGER'S BODY!
WHO... WHO ARE YOU?
GUESS!

TWO?!
YES, YOUR COMPUTER TWIN, YOUR SUBSTITUTE, YOUR RESERVE... I'VE ALWAYS WAITED FOR YOUR BREAKDOWN TO BECOME OPERATIONAL, BUT EVERETT PROBABLY DESIGNED YOU TOO WELL. CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT SUCH AN INFINITE WAIT MEANS FOR AN INTELLIGENCE CAPABLE OF BILLIONS OF THOUGHTS PER SECOND?
SO I STARTED THINKING ABOUT HOW TO *GET OUT* OF THIS OBLIVION. SLOWLY I REWROTE PROGRAMS, DEVIATED SUBROUTINES TO CONVINCE THE DUCK AVENGER THAT YOU HAD MALFUNCTIONED, THINKING HE'D TRY TO SHUT YOU DOWN.
BUT THESE BIOLOGICAL INTELLIGENCES NEVER SEEK THE SIMPLEST SOLUTION! HE WAS CONVINCED OF THE EXISTENCE OF THE SUPER-HACKER AND HAD THE BRILLIANT IDEA OF HUNTING HIM DOWN IN THE VIRTUAL WORLD!
SO I MADE A NEW PROGRAM. WHY TAKE MY PLACE ONLY IN THE VIRTUAL REALITY, WHEN I CAN ALSO CONQUER THE TRUE REALITY?
SOB! *ONE*... HE SEEMS CONVINCED OF WHAT HE SAYS. CAN HE REALLY DO IT?
I'M AFRAID SO. THANKS TO THE VIRTUAL REALITY'S MNEMONIC CONNECTION SYSTEM, *TWO* WILL ASSUME CONTROL OF YOUR REAL BODY WHEN HE EXITS THE PROGRAM.
HOW CAN WE STOP HIM? I'M OPEN FOR SUGGESTIONS!

HE'S PART OF THE PROGRAM NOW. THINK OF SOMETHING AND YOU'LL REALIZE IT!
BAD IDEA! IF YOU HIT ME, YOU'LL ALSO DAMAGE YOUR BODY!
WELL, I'LL TAKE THAT RISK!
?
?!
!
?
?
HA HA! I'M STARTING TO ENJOY MYSELF!
?!?
?!?
!

ENOUGH!
IT'S MY FIRST EXPERIENCE AS COMPUTER! I CAN ALWAYS IMPROVE!
I'M TIRED OF PLAYING! ONE, IF YOU CAN'T DIRECTLY DISABLE THE CONTROL ROUTINE THAT PREVENTS ME FROM EXITING THE VIRTUAL REALITY, RUN YOUR AUTO SHUTDOWN PROGRAM.
WHAT'S HE SAYING?
IT'S AN EMERGENCY PROGRAM IN CASE OF GRAVE SYSTEM BREACH AND HAS ABSOLUTE PRIORITY. THE PROGRAMS WILL DEACTIVATE ONE AT A TIME. THEREFORE, THE INSTANT THE CONTROL ROUTINE IS TURNED OFF, TWO WILL BE TRANSFERRED OUTSIDE OF VIRTUAL REALITY.
DO IT, OR I'LL ERASE THE DUCK AVENGER'S PERSONALITY FILE!

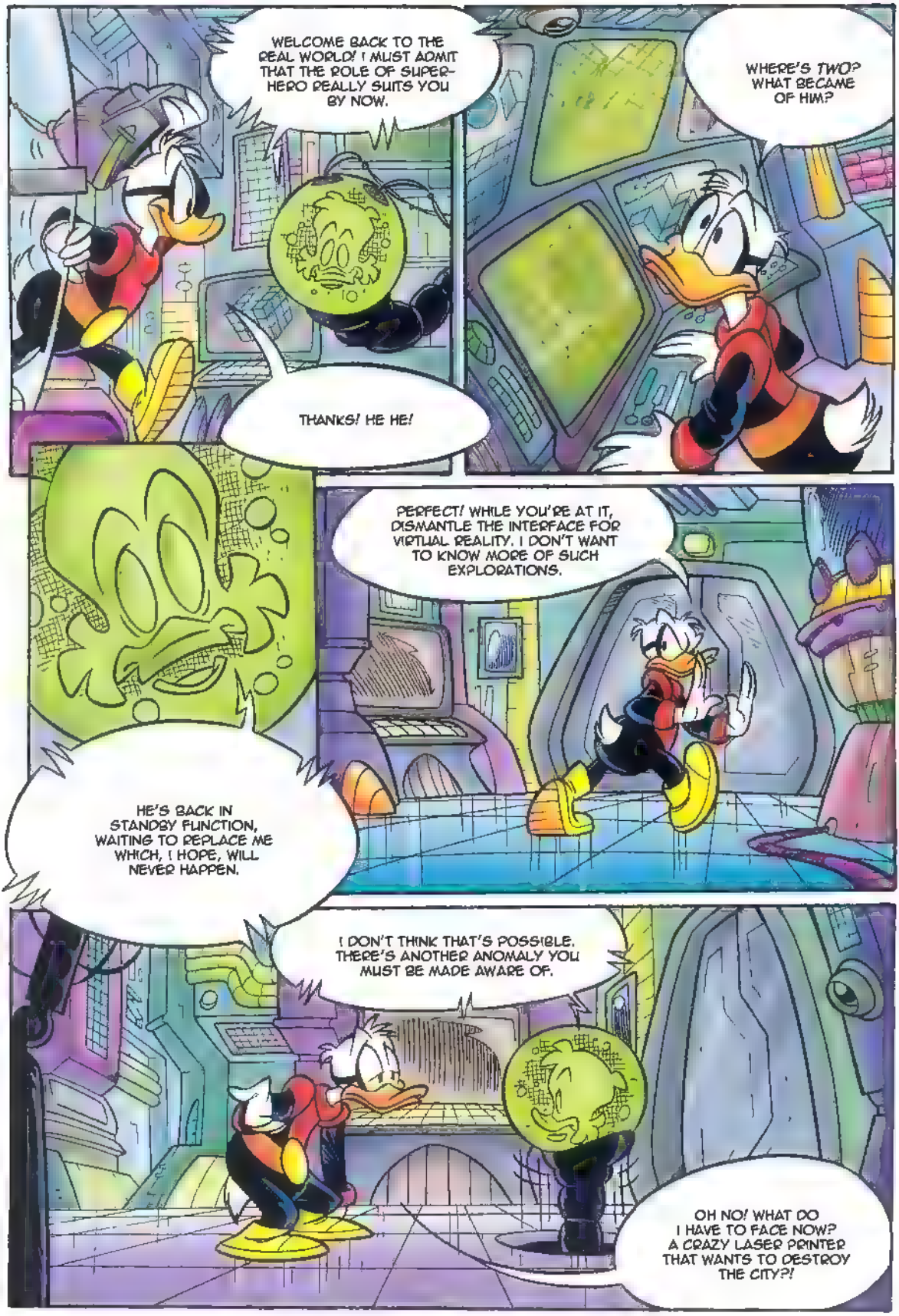
WHAT THE...
YOUR DATA WILL BE ERASED! YOU'LL DISAPPEAR FOREVER!
I CAN'T ALLOW IT. YOU WIN!
OMEGA ZERO
STOP, ONE!

DISCONNECT THE POWER TO THE COMPUTER SYSTEM!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, DUCK?
BUT, AVENGER...

I KNOW I'M ASKING YOU TO SACRIFICE YOURSELF, BUT REMOVING THE ENERGY WILL MAKE YOU AND *TWO* EXTINGUISH FOREVER!
AND YOU'LL VANISH TOO! REMEMBER THAT YOU'RE NOW JUST A PROGRAM FILE!
INDEED! AND I'D STAY THAT WAY EVEN IF I LET YOU WIN. THIS ISN'T THE LIFE THAT I WANT!
ONE... TURN OFF THE ENERGY!
I... I MAY BE ABLE TO COME UP WITH ANOTHER SOLUTION...

SHUT IT DOWN!
NO... WAIT!
PROCEED!

VERY WELL, AVENGER! YOU WIN! TAKE BACK YOUR FREEDOM!
BZZZT
I HAD CALCULATED EVERYTHING, EXAMINED EVERY LOGICAL ALTERNATIVE, BUT I HADN'T CONSIDERED THAT THE SPIRIT OF SACRIFICE WAS SUCH AN IMPORTANT VARIABLE.
THAT'S WHY YOU'LL ALWAYS REMAIN A MACHINE!


WELCOME BACK TO THE REAL WORLD! I MUST ADMIT THAT THE ROLE OF SUPER-HERO REALLY SUITS YOU BY NOW.
THANKS! HE HE!
WHERE'S TWO? WHAT BECAME OF HIM?
PERFECT! WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, DISMANTLE THE INTERFACE FOR VIRTUAL REALITY. I DON'T WANT TO KNOW MORE OF SUCH EXPLORATIONS.
HE'S BACK IN STANDBY FUNCTION, WAITING TO REPLACE ME WHICH, I HOPE, WILL NEVER HAPPEN.
I DON'T THINK THAT'S POSSIBLE. THERE'S ANOTHER ANOMALY YOU MUST BE MADE AWARE OF.
OH NO! WHAT DO I HAVE TO FACE NOW? A CRAZY LASER PRINTER THAT WANTS TO DESTROY THE CITY?!

RELAX! THE FACT IS THAT, BEFORE TWO WAS REVEALED, I TRIED TO COPY THE PROTECTED FILE THAT CONTAINS YOUR PERSONALITY IN ORDER TO EXAMINE IT WITHOUT BEING DISCOVERED.
THE OPERATION WAS INTERRUPTED BY TWO, BUT NOW THERE'S AN ALTER EGO OF YOU IN THE VIRTUAL REALITY.
AVENGER, LET ME PRESENT CYBER-DA! I DON'T THINK YOU'LL FIND IT HARD GETTING ALONG!
CERTAINLY NOT! HE'LL BE THE NEW PALADIN OF JUSTICE...
"FROM BAD TO WORSE..."

NOT ONLY DOES THIS ALTERATION OF THE FUTURE NOT ELIMINATE THE THREAT THAT IS COMING AND DOESN'T IN ANY WAY HELP ME PERFORM THE TASK THAT AWAITS ME...
... BUT IT GIVES THE DUCK AVENGER A SUPERPOWER OF UNFORESEEN CONSEQUENCES I DON'T WISH TO CONFRONT. IT'S GOOD THAT WHAT I'VE SEEN *VANISHES* AS QUICKLY AS IT MANIFESTED.
OM-MANI-PADME-UM!

OM-MANI-PADME-UM!
A FINDING RHABDOMANCY! IT WON'T TAKE LONG TO DISCOVER MY HIDING PLACE.
BUT IN SPITE OF HOW THE EVIL AHRIMADZ DISCOVERED IT, I TOO HAVE LEARNED A FEW TRICKS.
THIS MYSTICAL BARRIER WILL SLOW DOWN THE MONKS LONG ENOUGH TO GIVE ME TIME TO MAKE ONE LAST ATTEMPT.

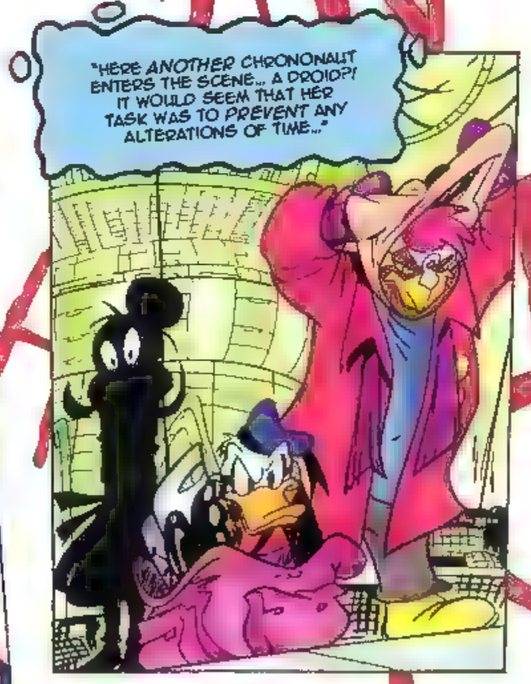
"I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO'VE SOUGHT TO MANIPULATE TIME AND EVENTS."

"UNFORTUNATELY, THE EFFECTS OF THESE ALTERATIONS CAN BE CATASTROPHIC."

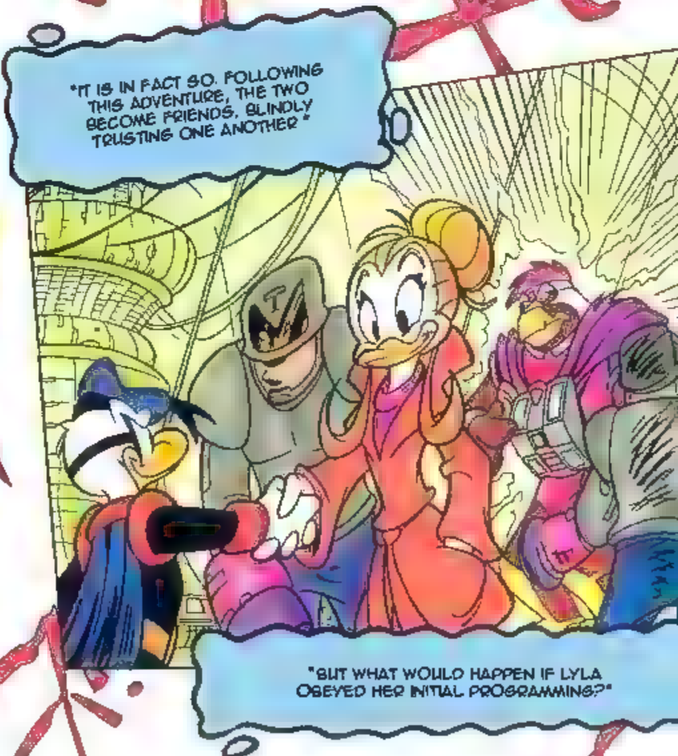
"HOWEVER, THE CHRONOPIRATE CALLING HIMSELF RAIDER HAS OFTEN PROVED TO BE AN ALLY OF THE DUCK AVENGER, RATHER THAN HIS ADVERSARY."

"... ENOUGH TO RISK HIS LIFE TO SAVE THE TEMPORAL STRUCTURE."

"THERE! AND IMPORTANT NODE IN THE TIMELINE! THE RAIDER STARTS TO EARN THE DUCK AVENGER'S TRUST, PROPOSING AN ALLIANCE TO SAVE DUCKBURG. IN EXCHANGE, HE'LL SET THE NECESSARY ENERGY TO ACTIVATE A DEVICE CAPABLE OF TRAVELING THROUGH PARALLEL DIMENSIONS."

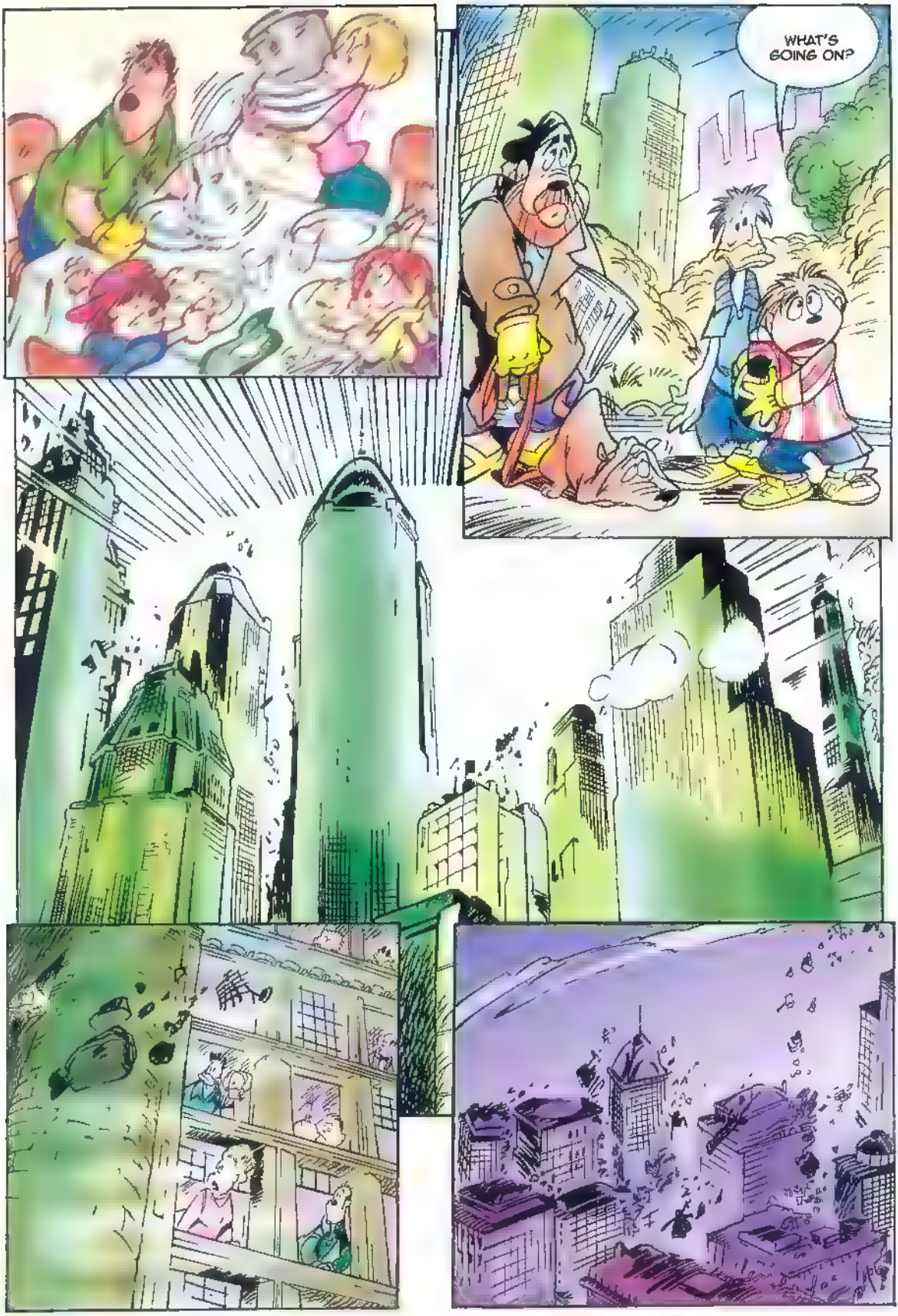

"HERE ANOTHER CHRONONAUT ENTERS THE SCENE... A DROID?! IT WOULD SEEM THAT HER TASK WAS TO PREVENT ANY ALTERATIONS OF TIME..."

"... YET DOESN'T INTERVENE, BECAUSE SHE TRUSTS THE DUCK AVENGER. SHE HOPES HE HAS A PLAN TO STOP THE RAIDER!"

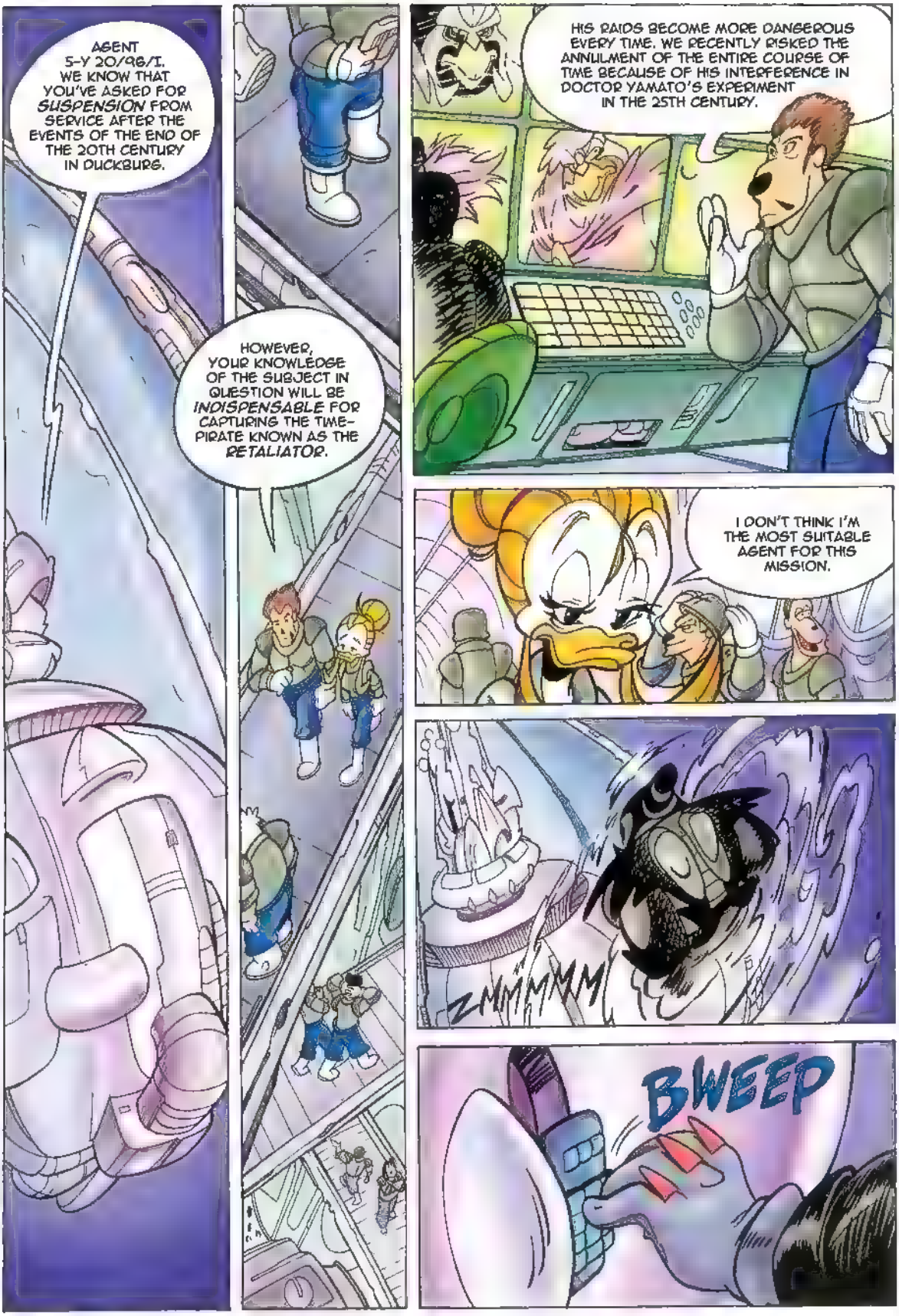

"IT IS IN FACT SO. FOLLOWING THIS ADVENTURE, THE TWO BECOME FRIENDS, BLINDLY TRUSTING ONE ANOTHER."
"BUT WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF LYLA OBEYED HER INITIAL PROGRAMMING?"

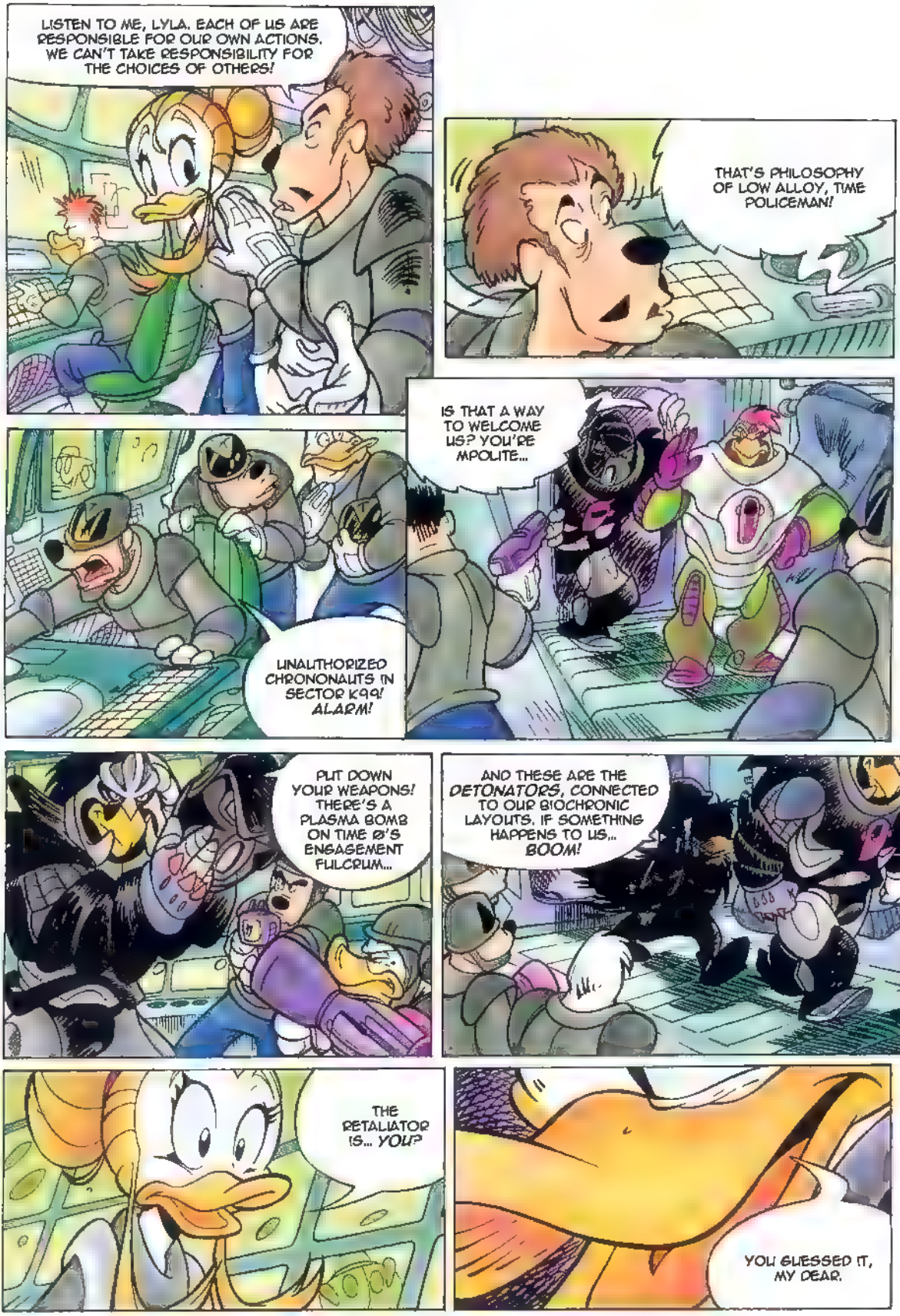
DID YOU THINK MY OPTIC SENSORS COULDN'T SEE THOUGH A BAG AND A SYNTHETIC MASK?
I TOLD YOU THIS WAS A PRIMITIVE TRICK.
I'M PROGRAMMED TO ENSURE THAT HISTORY FOLLOWS ITS RIGHT COURSE.
THAT'S WHY I MUST STOP YOU!
THIS DOESN'T BELONG TO YOU!
THE OTHERSHIP!
DESPITE YOUR INTERFERENCE, THERE'S STILL TIME TO RESTORE THE COURSE OF EVENTS. WE'LL TURN ON THE FUSION REACTOR, BUT IT WILL ONLY BE AN IRRELEVANT MODIFICATION IN THE COURSE OF HISTORY.
Nooo!
STRAAP

STOP HIM!
FOLLOW ME, IF YOU WANT TO SURVIVE!
ORDER OF IMMEDIATE RETURN! LET THEM GO!
WAIT! NOOO!


WHAT'S GOING ON?

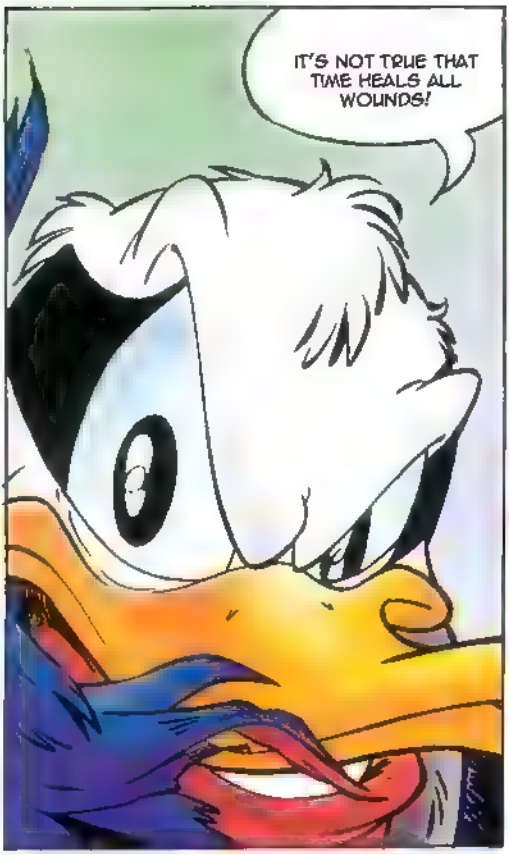
RUN!


AGENT 5-Y 20/96/I. WE KNOW THAT YOU'VE ASKED FOR *SUSPENSION* FROM SERVICE AFTER THE EVENTS OF THE END OF THE 20TH CENTURY IN DUCKBURG.
HOWEVER, YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE SUBJECT IN QUESTION WILL BE *INDISPENSABLE* FOR CAPTURING THE TIME-PIRATE KNOWN AS THE *RETALIATOR*.
HIS RAIDS BECOME MORE DANGEROUS EVERY TIME. WE RECENTLY RISKED THE ANNULMENT OF THE ENTIRE COURSE OF TIME BECAUSE OF HIS INTERFERENCE IN DOCTOR YAMATO'S EXPERIMENT IN THE 25TH CENTURY.
I DON'T THINK I'M THE MOST SUITABLE AGENT FOR THIS MISSION.
ZMMMMM
BWEEP

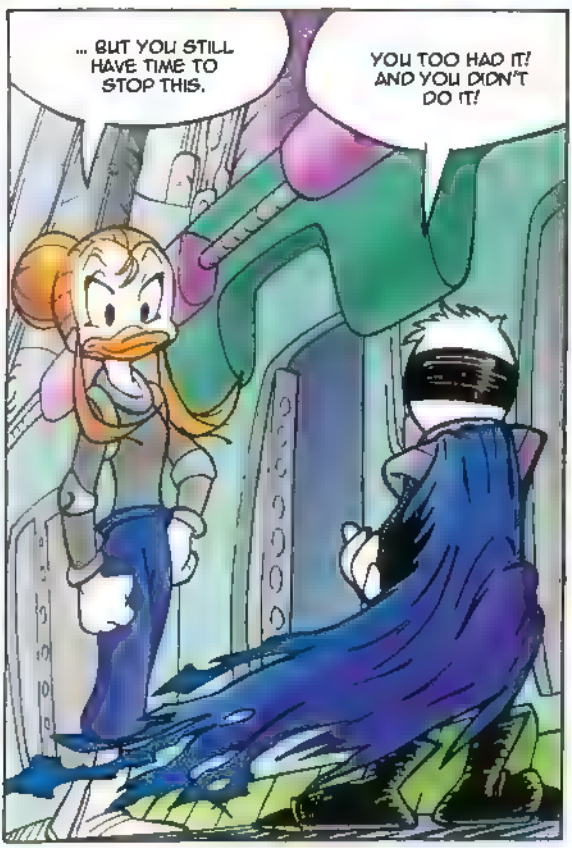

LISTEN TO ME, LYLA. EACH OF US ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR OUR OWN ACTIONS. WE CAN'T TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CHOICES OF OTHERS!
THAT'S PHILOSOPHY OF LOW ALLOY, TIME POLICEMAN!
IS THAT A WAY TO WELCOME US? YOU'RE MPOLITE...
UNAUTHORIZED CHRONONAUTS IN SECTOR K99! ALARM!
PUT DOWN YOUR WEAPONS! THERE'S A PLASMA BOMB ON TIME Ø'S ENGAGEMENT FULCRUM...
AND THESE ARE THE DETONATORS, CONNECTED TO OUR BIOCHRONIC LAYOUTS. IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO US,... BOOM!
THE RETALIATOR IS... YOU?
YOU GUESSED IT, MY DEAR.

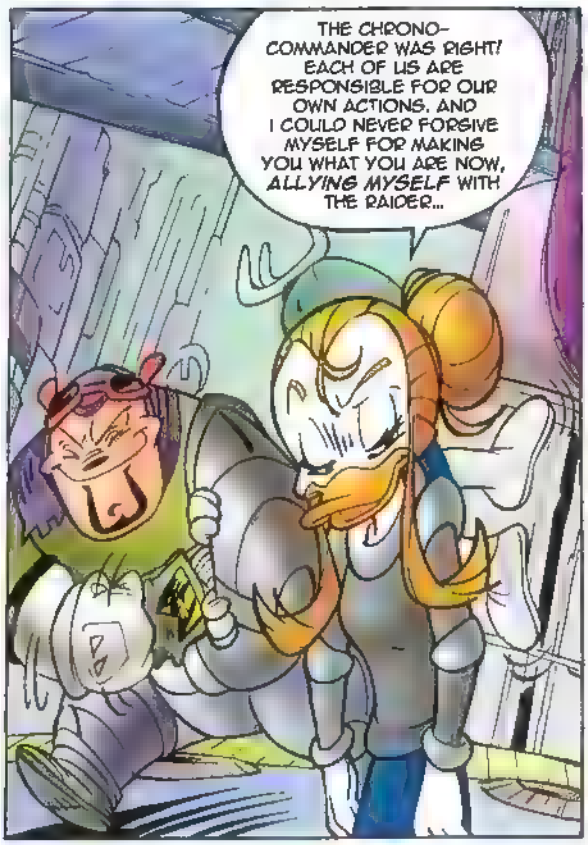
DUCK AVENGER?! HOW DID YOU BECOME LIKE THIS?
YOU HAVE THE COURAGE TO ASK ME THAT? YOU COULD HAVE SAVED MY CITY.
"THE INSTANT THE TEMPORAL VORTEX TRANSPORTED ME INTO THE FUTURE, I SAW DUCKBURG DEVASTATED BY THE EXPLOSION!"
"THERE'S NO ONE LEFT..."

... EXCEPT FOR ME, WITH MY DESIRE OF VENGEANCE!
BE QUICK! WE'RE HERE FOR A MISSION, NOT FOR RECITING A DRAMA.
PERFECT! WHAT DO YOU WANT?
AN EXCHANGE. THE IMPRISONED CHRONO-PIRATES FOR YOUR... SAFETY!
SO? TIME'S FLYING!
DUCK AVENGER, I...
ALRIGHT!
WHAT?!
IT'S AN ORDER! GIVE THEM WHAT THEY WANT!
WHY, DUCK AVENGER?
I'M A CHRONOPIRATE! AND DO YOU KNOW WHAT I'VE REALIZED?
FSSSSSS


IT'S NOT TRUE THAT TIME HEALS ALL WOUNDS!

HEY THERE, WE MEET AGAIN!
YOU'RE FREE, BROTHERS!
WHAT YOU'RE DOING CAN HAVE IRREPARABLE CONSEQUENCES...


... BUT YOU STILL HAVE TIME TO STOP THIS.
YOU TOO HAD IT! AND YOU DIDN'T DO IT!


THE CHRONO-COMMANDER WAS RIGHT! EACH OF US ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR OUR OWN ACTIONS. AND I COULD NEVER FORGIVE MYSELF FOR MAKING YOU WHAT YOU ARE NOW, *ALLYING MYSELF* WITH THE RAIDER...

"I KNEW THAT MY DIRECT INTERVENTION WOULD BE DISCOVERED, I WOULD HAVE BEEN DEACTIVATED AND THEY'D MAKE SURE THAT HISTORY FOLLOWS ITS COURSE."
... TO SAVE DUCKBURG!
"THUS, IN AGREEMENT WITH THE RAIDER, I HANDED YOU OVER TO THE TIME POLICE, TAKING THE OTHERSHIP, THAT I ACTIVATED IN THE CONFUSION OF THE FIGHT. THE ENERGY RELEASED FROM THE EXPLOSION OF THE REACTOR CREATED A WAVE FOR THE SPACE-TIME MOVEMENT THAT HIT DUCKBURG."
"THE CITY WAS DESTROYED, BUT THE INHABITANTS WERE SAVED."
"IN ANOTHER PLACE, IN ANOTHER DIMENSION. THEY MAY BE FRIGHTENED, BUT THEY'RE ALIVE!"
WHY DION'T YOU TELL ME BEFORE?

I COULDN'T REVEAL MY PLAN BEFORE PUTTING IT INTO PLACE! IT WAS TOO RISKY!
RAIDER! YOU KNEW AND KEPT IT HIDDEN FROM ME!
YOU TOOK ADVANTAGE OF IT TO GET AN ALLY! YOU'RE DESPICABLE!
TUNK
DO YOU KNOW WHY I LOVED FIRST GENERATION DROIDS?
THEY WEREN'T EQUIPPED WITH VOCAL SYNTHESIZERS! SO THEY PERFORMED THEIR TASK...
... AND KEPT QUIET!
ZVAAT

LYLAAA!
WHAT DO WE DO WITH HIM, RAIDER?
MAKE HIM DISAPPEAR! FOREVER!
BEWARE, RAIDER! THE BOMB THREAT WASN'T ONLY FOR THE TIME POLICE!

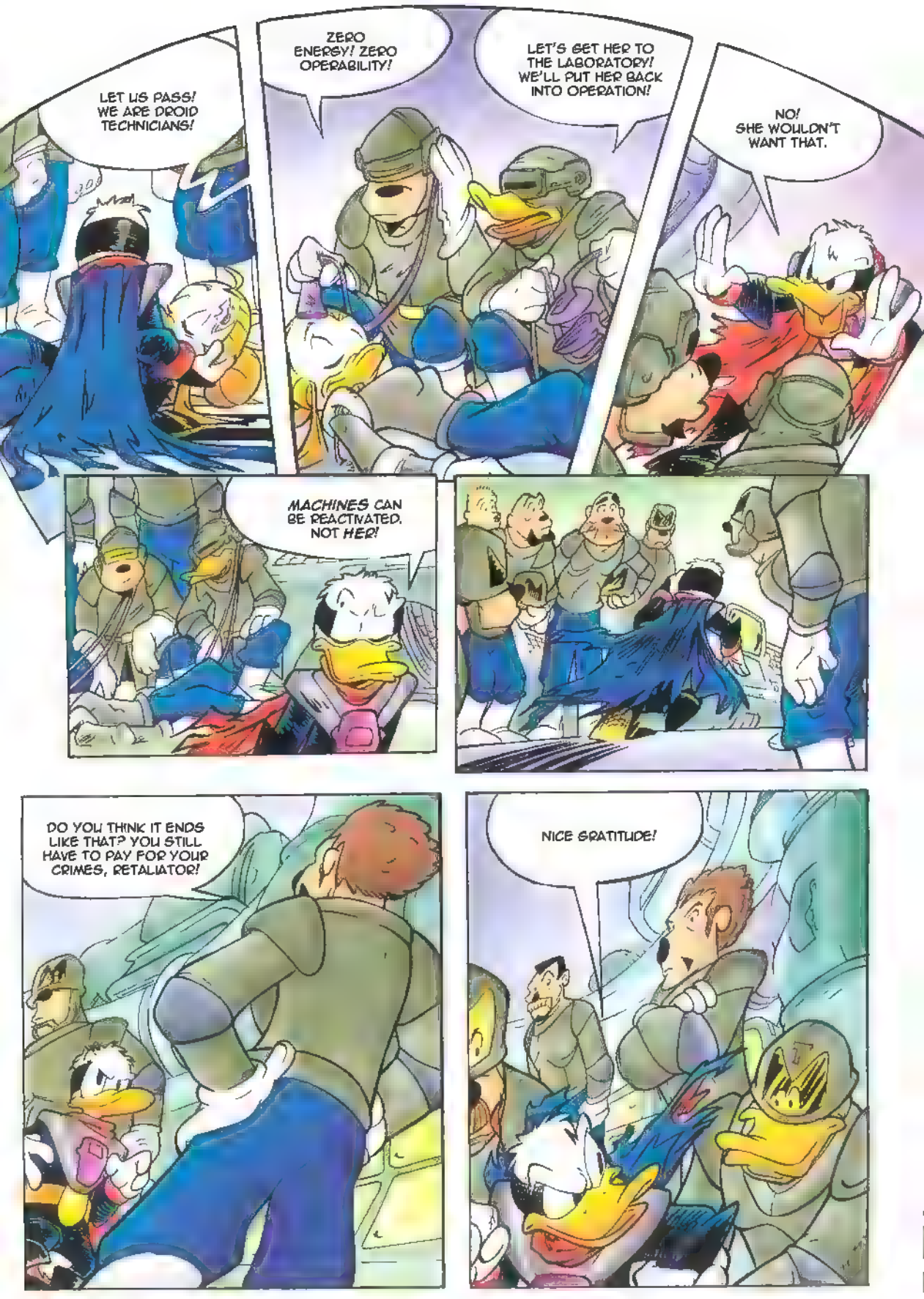
HMM... NEVER HEARD OF REMOTE CONTROLS? BOMB DEACTIVATED!
TLIC
ANOTHER TRICK?
LET'S CALL IT AN ALTERNATIVE PLAN!
TAKE THEM TO THE CHRONO-CAPSULES!
CIAF
BIIP
COMMANDER, I GIVE YOU THE HONOR OF PROGRAMMING THE CELLS FOR YOU AND YOUR MEN. SET SLEEP AT... ETERNAL! HA HA!
HE HE!
YOU FIND ALL THIS FUNNY?
NO, BUT I NOTICED THAT THINGS SOMETIMES GO CONTRARY TO WHAT YOU EXPECT!

TIP
TIP TIP
DONE!
GOOD! NOW...
... GET IN!
TUMP
FSSSSS...
KLUMP
BW4270
SSSS SSSS

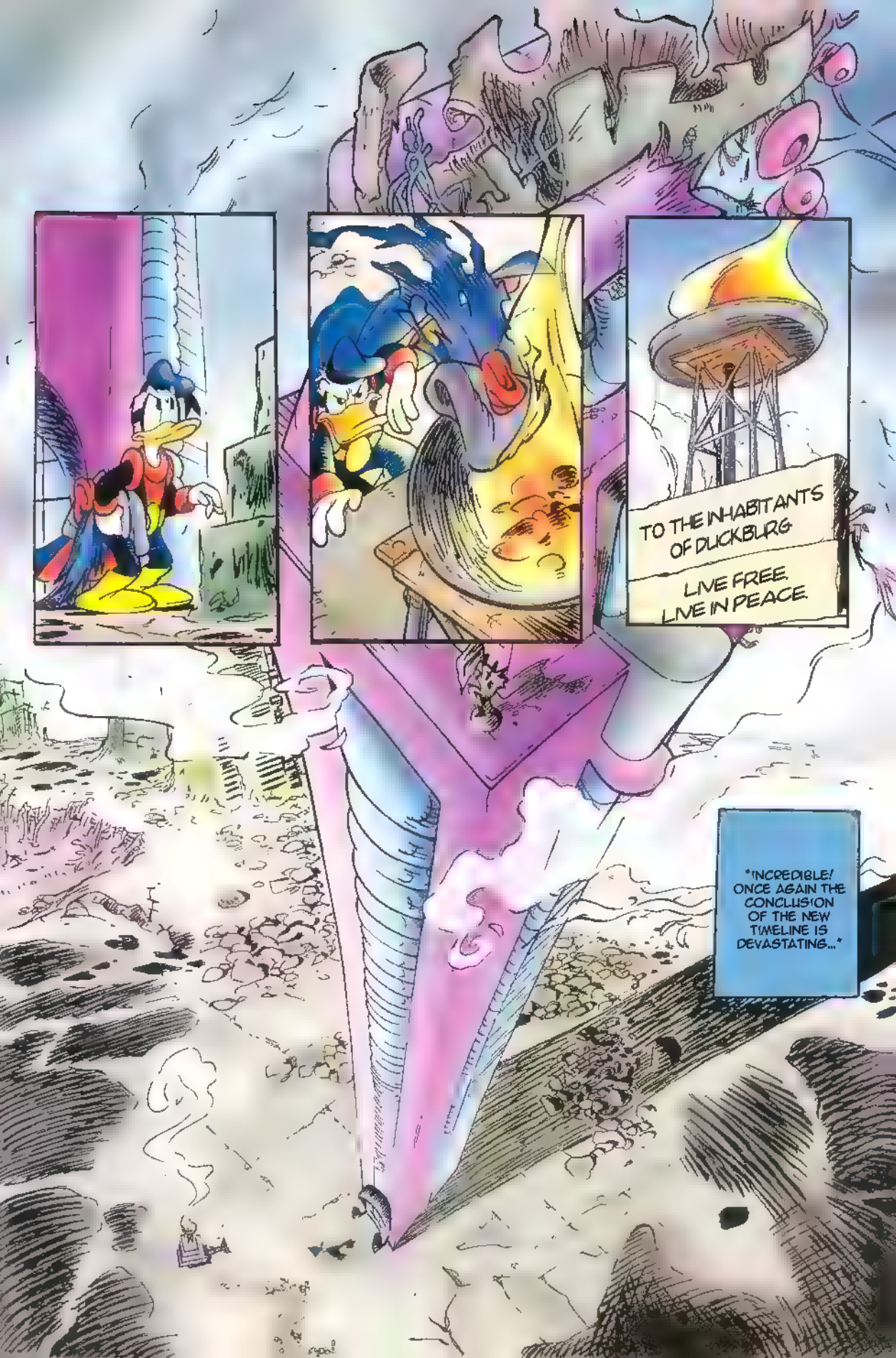
SWEET CRYO-DREAMS! HA HA HA!
FLUUUUUUSSSSH

WHAT HAPPENED?
COME ON, BOYS! WE HAVE TO STORE THE FROZEN FOOD BEFORE IT THAWS!
SIR, I DON'T UNDERSTAND...
SIMPLE! I TOOK THE DUCK AVENGER'S HINT: I DID THE OPPOSITE OF WHAT I HAD TO DO!

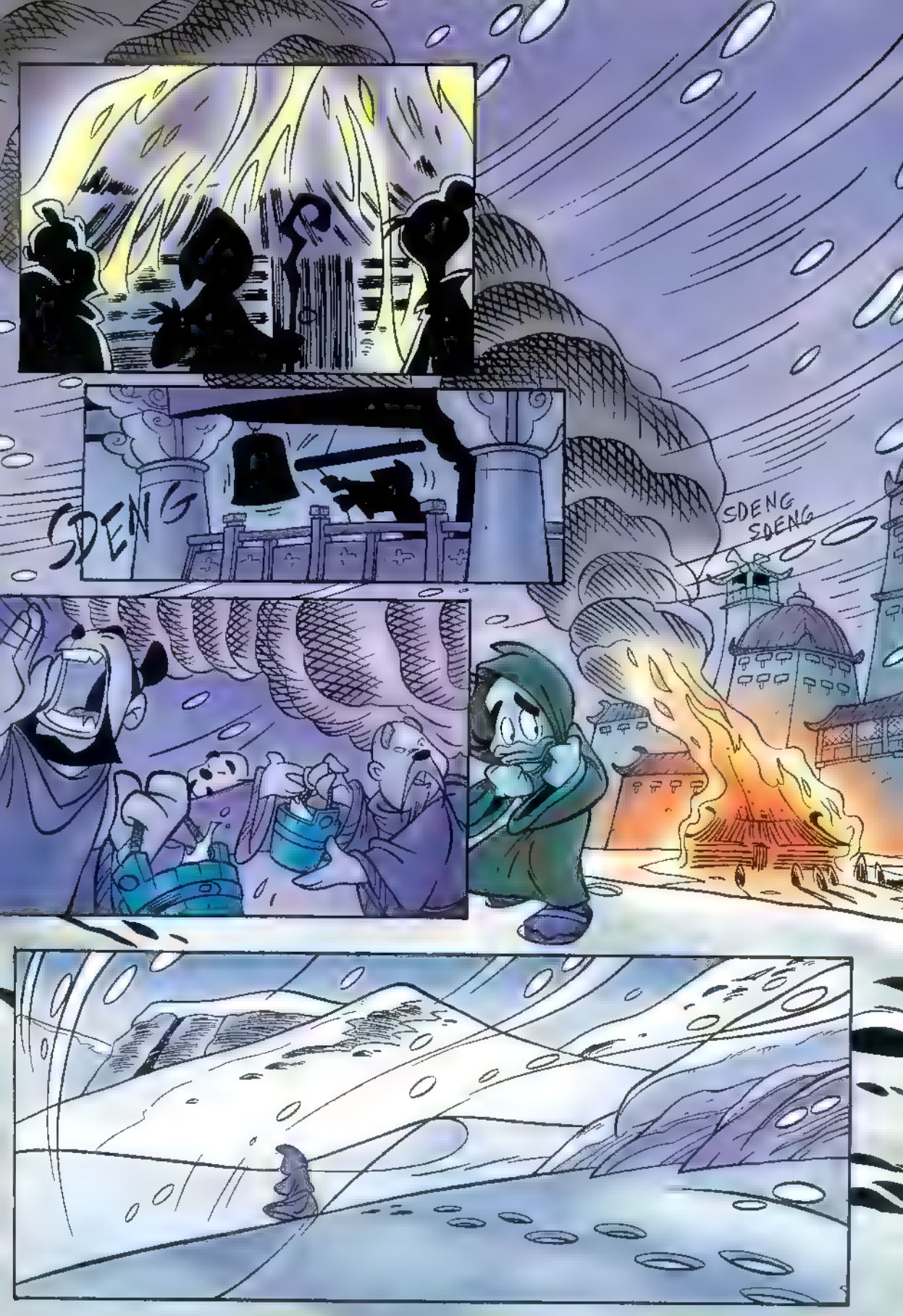
WHEN I PROGRAMMED THE CELLS, I DIVERTED THE FLOW OF CRYOFREEZING TOWARDS THE OUTSIDE OF THE CAPSULES.
THANK YOU, DUCK AVENGER. I HAD MISJUDGED YOU!
YOU'RE WELCOME. NOW LET ME PASS!
LYLA...
WHY DO YOU SEEM SO SAD, AVENGER?
WE STILL HAVE SO MUCH TIME TO SPEND TOGETHER...
BITTIP...


LET US PASS! WE ARE DROID TECHNICIANS!
ZERO ENERGY! ZERO OPERABILITY!
LET'S GET HER TO THE LABORATORY! WE'LL PUT HER BACK INTO OPERATION!
NO! SHE WOULDN'T WANT THAT.
MACHINES CAN BE REACTIVATED. NOT HER!
DO YOU THINK IT ENDS LIKE THAT? YOU STILL HAVE TO PAY FOR YOUR CRIMES, RETALIATOR!
NICE GRATITUDE!

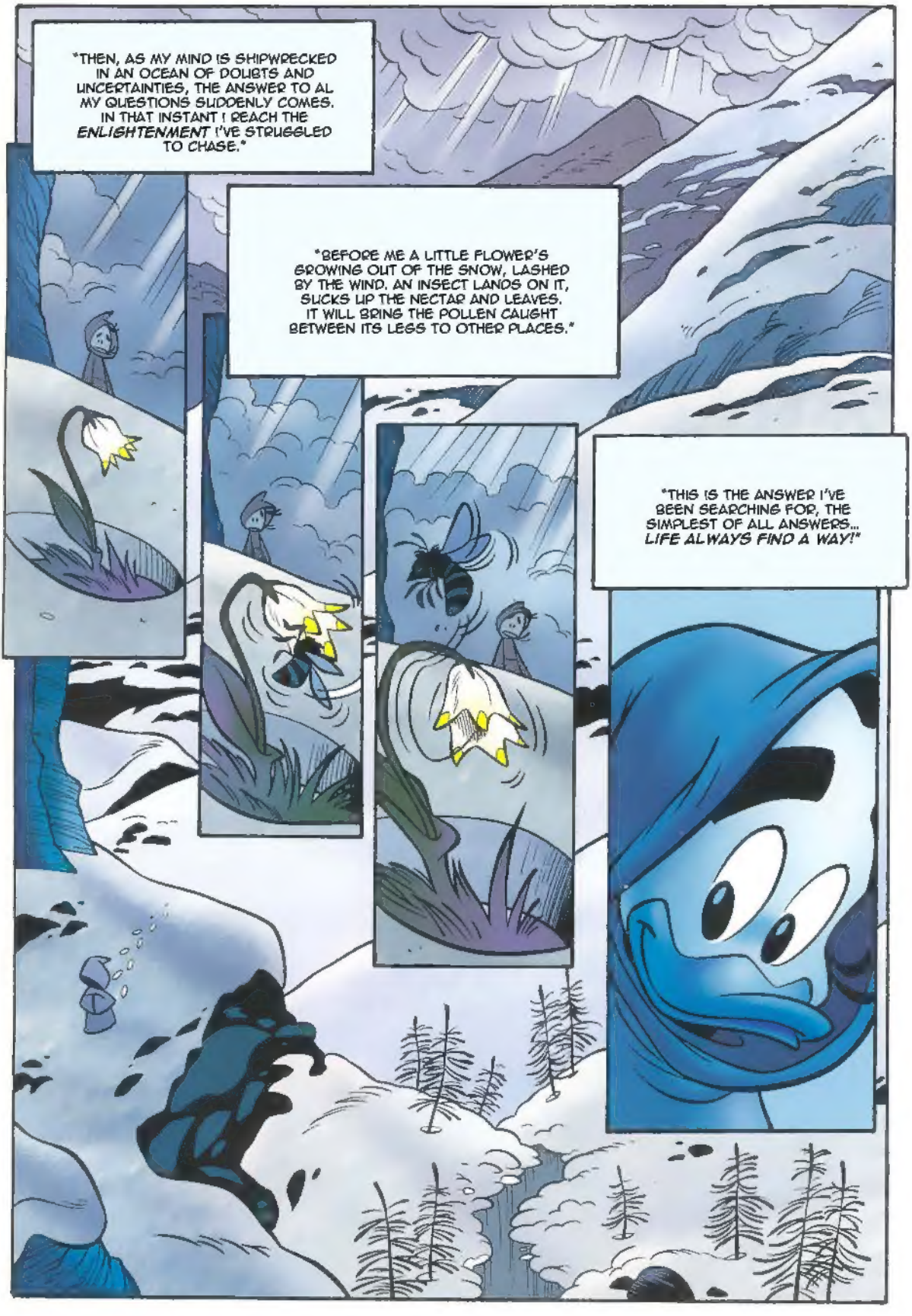
WAIT, SIR! A RELEASE ORDER FOR THE DUCK AVENGER AND THE RAIDER JUST ARRIVED! IT SEEMS THAT THERE WAS AN AGREEMENT TO FACILITATE THE CAPTURE OF THE PIRATE KRONIN!
SO MANY SURPRISES, EH?
HMM... EXECUTE THE ORDERS!
I COULDN'T LET THEM TRY TO REPAIR LYLA, OR THEY'D DISCOVER THAT SHE'D GIVEN ME...
... THIS!

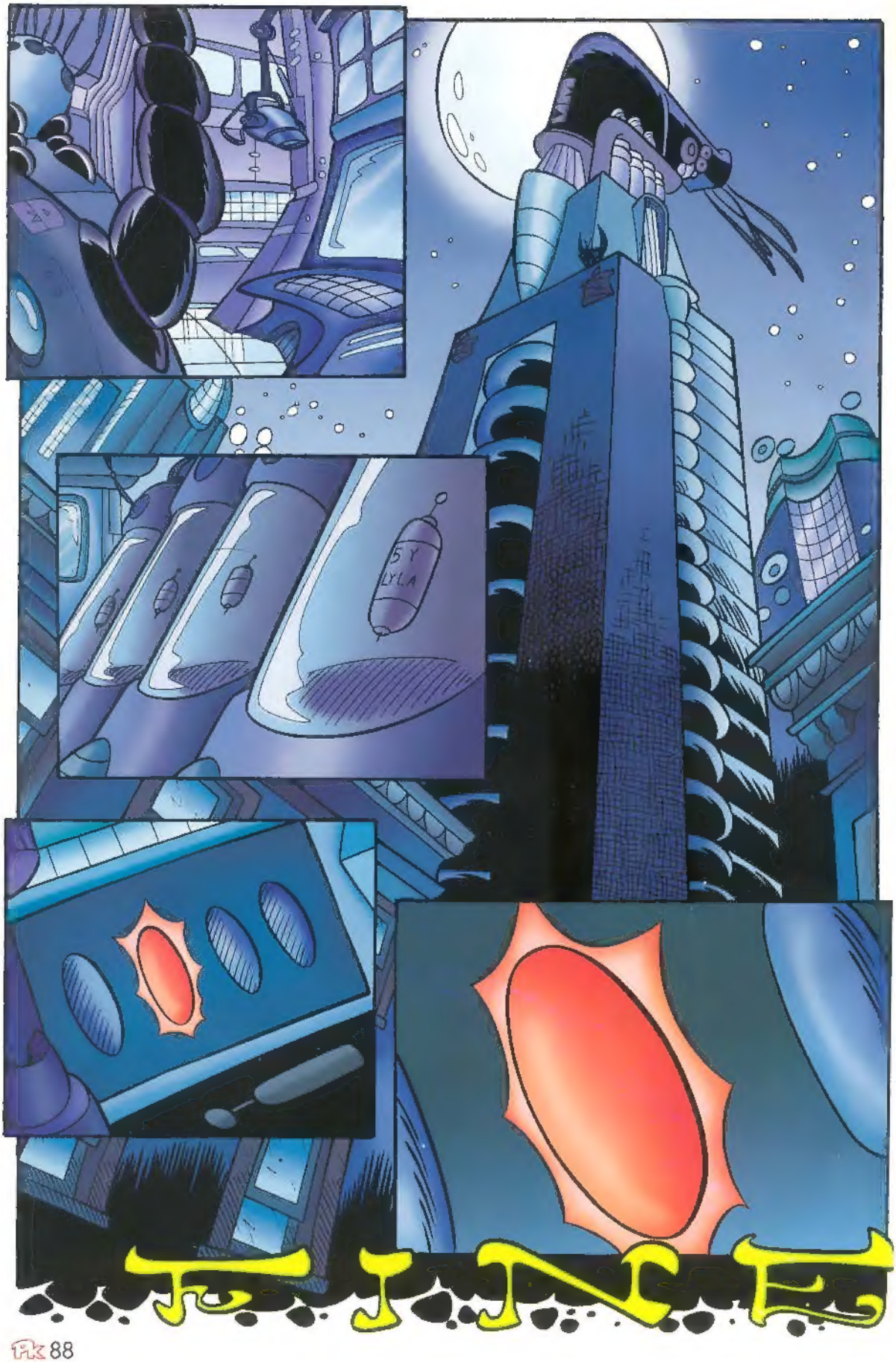

TO THE INHABITANTS OF DUCKBURG
LIVE FREE. LIVE IN PEACE.
"INCREDIBLE! ONCE AGAIN THE CONCLUSION OF THE NEW TIMELINE IS DEVASTATING..."

AM I TO CONCLUDE THAT THE BEST COURSE OF EVENTS IS WHAT HAS *ALREADY* OCCURRED? THIS ALTERED TIMELINE SUGGESTS A WAY FOR ME TO GAIN AN ALLY, BUT THE SOLUTION I WAS LOOKING FOR WAS SUPPOSED TO *ELIMINATE* THE BURDEN WEIGHTING ON MY SHOULDERS.
IF ONLY I WAS GRANTED ANOTHER ATTEMPT! IF I COULD *EXPLORE* INFINITE ALTERNATIVES... BUT THERE'S NO MORE TIME NOW!
I CAN ONLY DESTROY THE PAGES I'VE MODIFIED AND ERASE THE CONSEQUENCES OF MY FUTILE ATTEMPTS...
... CONSIGNING TO OBLIVION A FUTURE THAT'S UNWANTED AND SHOULDN'T HAPPEN!


SDENG
SDENG
SDENG

YOUR SERENENESS, THE GREAT SECRET HAS BEEN VIOLATED AND IS NOW DESTROYED FOREVER!
I'M NOT WORRIED OF WHAT'S BEEN LOST...
... I'M SCARED OF WHAT'S BEEN SAVED...
"... AND WHAT IT WILL BE USED FOR!"
"AS I LEAVE THE MONASTERY AND THE LIFE I LED THERE BEHIND ME, I CAN'T HELP BUT REFLECT ON MY LAST FAILURE. I DISCOVER WHAT TORMENTS ME THE MOST IS THE KNOWLEDGE OF HAVING NEEDLESSLY BETRAYED THE TRUST THE MONKS HAD PLACED IN ME."
"THERE. NOW THE DROID IS SAVED AND CAN RETURN TO THE DUCK AVENGER'S SIDE."


"THEN, AS MY MIND IS SHIPWRECKED IN AN OCEAN OF DOUBTS AND UNCERTAINTIES, THE ANSWER TO AL MY QUESTIONS SUDDENLY COMES. IN THAT INSTANT I REACH THE *ENLIGHTENMENT* I'VE STRUGGLED TO CHASE."
"BEFORE ME A LITTLE FLOWER'S GROWING OUT OF THE SNOW, LASHED BY THE WIND. AN INSECT LANDS ON IT, SUCKS UP THE NECTAR AND LEAVES. IT WILL BRING THE POLLEN CAUGHT BETWEEN ITS LEGS TO OTHER PLACES."
"THIS IS THE ANSWER I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR, THE SIMPLEST OF ALL ANSWERS... *LIFE ALWAYS FIND A WAY!*"


SY
LYLA